

1 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
2 FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
3 CHARLOTTE DIVISION

4 IN RE:

5 GARLOCK SEALING TECHNOLOGIES, No. 10-BK-31607
6 LLC, et al,
7 Debtors.

VOLUME VII-B
AFTERNOON SESSION
TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2013

8
9 TRANSCRIPT OF ESTIMATION TRIAL
10 BEFORE THE HONORABLE GEORGE R. HODGES,
11 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

12
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I N D E X

	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIR	RECROSS
Arnold Brody.....	1847.....	1867.....	1908.....	1914
Carl Brodkin.....	1916			

E X H I B I T S

Debtors' Exhibits No.: ADMITTED

ACC's Exhibits No: ADMITTED

ACC-3562.....	1866
ACC-3563.....	1866
ACC-3564.....	1866
ACC-3565.....	1866
ACC-3332.....	1990
ACC-3333.....	1990
ACC-3334.....	1990
ACC-3336.....	1990

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(On the record at 1:47 p.m.)

MR. GEORGE: Good afternoon, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Good afternoon.

DIRECT EXAMINATION CONTINUES

By MR. GEORGE:

Q. When we left, Dr. Brody, we talked about the fact that this is a diagram of the pleura and how the fibers get to the pleura. Do you have a diagram that shows where Mesotheliomas occur and what they look like when they do?

A. Yes. You can see, again, on this diagram. This is the lung. And normally, as we saw earlier, the pleura should have a -- should be very thin. I mean it's normally Saran Wrap thin, that's how thin it is, and then with a single cell layer on the outside. And then when there's a Mesothelioma present, there's a dramatic thickening as the tumor cells build up on either side of the lung, the so-called visceral pleura or the parietal pleura under the ribs. The tumor can grow from either side and grow into the peritoneal cavity as well and into the structure of the lung.

Q. Now, do you have some slides that will show us whether the asbestos fibers have the ability to cause that type of cancer?

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1 A. Yes. So, in order for asbestos or any carcinogen
2 that's a cancer-causing agent to cause a cancer, it has
3 to cause what's called "genetic damage." It has to
4 damage genes. So this is the cover of a proceedings --
5 of a meeting I was at a few years ago, and the topic was
6 how fibers cause cancer, carcinogenesis cancer formation.
7 I gave a talk at this conference. I've talked to you
8 today about cells and I've showed you that cells can pick
9 up fibers, but you can't talk about carcinogenesis unless
10 you talk about the molecular aspects. That means your
11 genes, because cancer is a genetic disease.

12 The simplest definition of cancer is the loss of
13 control of cell growth. Cancer is the loss of control of
14 cell growth. Humans have about 20,000 or so genes that
15 make us what we are. Of those 20,000 or so genes, about
16 100 of them control cell growth called growth control
17 genes. Some of them, in fact, are dedicated to
18 protecting us against cancer, from getting cancer, and
19 they're called tumor suppressor genes, for example.

20 In order for a carcinogen to produce a cancer it
21 has to cause errors in a series of genes that control
22 cell growth. A series of those genes -- I told you those
23 hundred or so genes that control cell growth. So one of
24 the ways that scientists can establish how asbestos or
25 other carcinogens cause that change in cell growth and

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1 genetic damage is by taking cells out of animals or out
2 of people, putting those cells in a dish, a so-called in
3 vitro study. If you add the right nutrients to those
4 cells, they'll continue to grow. And you can actually,
5 then, add the carcinogens and study the interactions
6 between the carcinogens and the DNA.

7 Q. This can be done with both animal cells and human
8 cells?

9 A. Yes. It's done regularly like that. That's
10 right. So, for example, on the cover of these
11 proceedings there were two cells. I'm outlining one of
12 them for you here, and then there's another cell over
13 here. And some fibers have been added, and you can see
14 there's a long fiber there and some short fibers, and
15 those fibers have collected around the center circle in
16 the cell. And the center circle is called the nucleus.
17 And the nucleus of our cells contains all of our DNA.

18 I told you that "molecular aspects" means your
19 genes. And when we're talking about our genes, we're
20 talking about DNA. Our genes are made up of DNA, short
21 segments of DNA. Now notice, how the fibers have been
22 excluded from the center circle. And they're excluded
23 because there is a membrane that surrounds the nucleus,
24 nuclear membrane that protects all the genetic material.
25 That's why it's excluded. That's a good thing. That's

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1 what we expect to happen.

2 Now, it turns out that when cells are dividing,
3 when we're making new cells, that nuclear membrane
4 dissipates and the nuclear membrane is no longer there to
5 protect the DNA. So we asked in my laboratory, what
6 would happen if we added fibers when the cells were
7 dividing? And I can -- I can show you what happens.

8 Q. Now is that cell division process a process that's
9 ongoing throughout the time that we live?

10 A. Right. From the time after the first division of
11 the egg in the womb. I mean that's -- that's the same
12 similar kind of cell division. And every time there's --

13 Q. When we're standing here, are some of our cells
14 dividing?

15 A. Exactly. Some of our cells are dividing. And
16 what you'd expect them to do is what I'm exactly showing
17 you here. Here are three cells: One, two, and then
18 three. There are three cells. The two cells on the
19 outside are not dividing. You can see there the DNA's
20 been stained blue and it's contained in the nucleus.
21 This cell in the center has received a signal to divide.
22 It could be just normal growth rate. For example, your
23 skin. About ten percent of your skin cells are growing
24 replacing themselves. One percent of your lung cells.
25 The mesothelial surface has a very low rate of one-half

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1 of one percent, but eventually they all have to be
2 replaced.

3 Now this cell in the center has received a signal
4 to divide. Perhaps its neighbor was injured. I could
5 have added a growth hormone. Whatever the reason, this
6 cell's divided. Now that means what's happening is that
7 the DNA in the nucleus has condensed into these white
8 threads called chromosomes. And what we're trying to do
9 then is make a perfect copy of all of the DNA. So what
10 has to happen is that the chromosomes are going to
11 duplicate and then we'll get two new cells like the
12 original. And let me show you what your chromosomes look
13 like.

14 Humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes. Each
15 chromosome, one -- you've got one from your mother and
16 one from your father. And lined up on the chromosomes
17 are these light and dark bands that represent where our
18 20,000 or so genes are distributed. Now, the point of
19 this is that each gene must be in the correct place on
20 the correct chromosome. There's no mixing and matching
21 of where our genes can be located. In order to function
22 correctly, the gene must be in the correct place on the
23 correct chromosome. So if we finish this process of
24 normal cell division, the chromosomes have condensed.
25 They replicate. And if they go through faithful

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1 replication you'll get two what are called "daughter
2 cells." That's what we hope for every time.

3 Now, this is an experiment using cells. You can
4 see here a normal cell. This is one of millions of cells
5 in the experiment, and there's -- there are no fibers.
6 On this side, in panel B, crocidolite fibers have been
7 added and you can see there's long crocidolite fibers and
8 some shorter ones. In this slide with no fibers, half
9 the chromosomes moved to one side and half to the other.
10 We'll get two new daughter cells.

11 On this side, most of the DNA has moved to the new
12 developing cells but some of the DNA is bound to the
13 surface of the fibers resulting in this condition called
14 Aneuploidy. Aneuploidy means abnormal chromosome
15 separation. And let me show you that Chrysotile does the
16 same thing here. Here is a normal mesothelial cell. The
17 mesothelial cell here has no fibers. So half of the
18 chromosomes will go to one side, half to the other.
19 We'll get two new daughter cells. Here you can see the
20 two daughter cells have formed and there's a Chrysotile
21 fiber spanning the two cells and there's DNA bound to the
22 surface of the fiber, again, producing Aneuploidy.
23 Q. Now the way those Chrysotile fibers get in,
24 because during the process of separating we lose that
25 barrier?

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1 A. That's right. The barrier that protects the DNA
2 nucleus is lost during cell division. And it's been
3 known for a long time that dividing cells are more likely
4 to become cancer cells because of that reason. They
5 don't have that protective envelope.

6 Q. If this happens once, are you going to get cancer?

7 A. No.

8 Q. What happens if it happens twice?

9 A. No.

10 Q. What does it take for a cancer to form?

11 A. Okay. So, that is actually answered in the last
12 slide. But let me first tell you the significance of
13 this DNA bound to the surface of the fiber, if I can.

14 Q. Sure.

15 A. So, I told you a minute ago when I showed you the
16 chromosomes that every one of our genes must be in the
17 right place at the right time in order to function. So
18 let's take, for an example, a gene that we know very well
19 that I've studied that's called P-53. This is a tumor
20 suppressor gene. When a cell gets DNA damage, the P-53
21 gene is activated and stops the cell from dividing. If
22 the cell is not dividing it can't pass on mistakes or
23 genetic damage to the daughter cells. So that's how it
24 protects us.

25 We have another set of genes called death pathway

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1 genes. When there is DNA damage, these death pathway
2 genes get activated and drive the cells down our death
3 pathway. The cells die and you never hear about them
4 again. And this is going on in us all the time when
5 we're exposed to carcinogens in the environment, whether
6 it's ultraviolet light from the sun or cigarette smoke.
7 These genes get activated and protect us from getting
8 cancer. If in this DNA that's bound to the surface of
9 the fiber is a gene that we need to protect us, it's not
10 going to work.

11 Q. So those suppressor genes are much like the body's
12 defense mechanisms for the fibers getting in the cilia
13 and all that. These are molecular defense mechanisms
14 against foreign and particulate matter?

15 A. These are molecular defense mechanisms that
16 protect our Genome, our genes, from carcinogens, from
17 damage from carcinogens. That's right.

18 Now, this is the end of the cancer description
19 slides that I have because there's a lot going on in this
20 time period that we call latency. So, you know, from the
21 time for first exposure until the time the person comes
22 to the clinic. So it's good to understand what's going
23 on during those decades related to what I just told you.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. So if you take this mesothelial surface and see

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1 the individual cells with the single nucleus. And here
2 you can see the artist has given us a couple of lightning
3 bolts and he says "DNA damage" from something from the
4 environment is what he's meaning, something that's coming
5 in from the outside and reaching the DNA. Now, in this
6 case it could be asbestos. We're talking about
7 Mesothelioma. Obviously, it's asbestos that can either
8 bind the DNA as I just showed you, but asbestos can also
9 generate what are called "oxygen radicals." These are
10 short-lived, high energy compounds that are known to
11 cause DNA damage.

12 So, asbestos has sort of a double whammy in its
13 ability to produce genetic errors. Number one, it binds
14 DNA. Number two, it binds oxygen radicals. So whatever
15 the specific damage, this is a general discussion of DNA
16 damage. And what the artist has done, he knows very well
17 that typically when there's DNA damage the cells die. So
18 he has one cell going up into here to the left-hand
19 corner and dying. The DNA's all clumped up. The surface
20 of the cell is bubbling up and the cell is going to die
21 and you never hear about it again. But we're talking,
22 obviously, about a cancer. We know the cancer has
23 developed. So that means one of the daughter cells with
24 a genetic error must have survived. So, here is that
25 daughter cell.

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1 Then the artist has a tumor growing out here and
2 he calls it "tumor genesis" or tumor formation. And you
3 can see there are multiple tumor cells with odd
4 combinations of DNA. And this distance, this time
5 between the first daughter cell and the generation of the
6 tumor, is that latency. So you've got to give me about
7 20 years there, 40 years there. And I'll just take a few
8 seconds to explain what's going on in that latency time.

9 So, think about this one mesothelial cell sitting
10 on the mesothelial surface among the hundreds of millions
11 of mesothelial cells we have and the cell's looking and
12 acting just like a normal mesothelial cell. There's no
13 way you'd know it was there unless you went in and
14 sequenced the DNA on every mesothelial cell on that
15 person's surface and, of course, that's not going to
16 happen. So that cell then can sit there like that with
17 that error in a gene that controls cell growth. It can
18 sit there like that for months, but eventually it has to
19 divide. Two cells, four cells, eight cells, 16 cells
20 passing on that error to the other cells, to the new
21 cells.

22 Now, one or more of them might die. But then in
23 order to get a cancer you have to have a second error.
24 Another asbestos fiber comes in and hits one or more of
25 those new cells. Now it has two errors. And that cell,

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1 then, with the two genetic errors divides and can sit
2 there looking like -- looking and acting like a normal
3 mesothelial cell for months. But eventually it has to
4 divide: Two cells, four cells, eight cells, 16 cells.
5 Some of them may die. One or more of them gets hit
6 again. Three errors go through the scenario again. Four
7 errors.

8 Q. When you say "error," what you mean is you have
9 the daughter cell's problems. And then when it gets hit
10 again it creates another rearrangement, so that creates a
11 different replication.

12 A. That's right. Another gene. Because we haven't
13 told you about a hundred cells that control cell growth.
14 What we're talking about here is an additional gene that
15 controls cell growth now is damaged.

16 Okay. Now you go through that scenario of
17 cumulating errors for decades. And then eventually, at
18 the end of the time that it takes to accumulate
19 sufficient errors for that person, because you see how
20 the artist has given us this oddly colored tumor? It's
21 oddly colored because that tumor -- all the cells in that
22 tumor came from a single cell with a sufficient
23 combination and number of errors for that person. Now we
24 know how many errors you can find in a given tumor, but
25 it's going to be different with a different combination

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1 among different people.

2 Q. Is that what you call individual susceptibility?

3 A. That's part of the individual susceptibility and
4 it's part of the individual's response, of course. But
5 eventually the tumor grows out and, of course, that's
6 what brings this person to the clinic.

7 Q. Now how does the multiple errors, how does that
8 impact on the dose-response and the cumulative nature of
9 asbestos in causing this?

10 A. Sure. The more a person's exposed, the more
11 likely it is that a fiber or series of fibers is going to
12 be carried to the pleura and be able to interact and
13 produce the genetic errors that I just described.

14 Q. And then you have a final slide on summing up your
15 testimony with regard to Chrysotile?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So from what your studies show, does it show that
18 Chrysotile asbestos is highly toxic to both human and
19 animal mesothelial cells?

20 A. Yes. I've done some of this. But there are a
21 number of studies -- I've not studied human mesothelial
22 cells in culture but others have and, clearly, it is
23 toxic.

24 Q. All right. And in your studies, have you -- and
25 in your research have you seen the fact that Chrysotile

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1 can cause scarring inside the lungs of rats, mice and
2 humans?

3 A. I've published a number of papers showing that.
4 Yes.

5 Q. And that scarring inside the lung tissue is called
6 what when it's caused by asbestos?

7 A. Asbestosis.

8 Q. So can Chrysotile leave the mineral fiber itself
9 and cause asbestosis in humans and in animals?

10 A. No question.

11 Q. Okay. Is Chrysotile cytotoxic to the human
12 macrophages?

13 A. Absolutely. And I've studied that in my
14 laboratory as well.

15 Q. The macrophages are like the scrubbing bubbles in
16 lungs and our cells. They go along and try to eat up
17 toxic --

18 A. They try.

19 Q. What happens if something is cytotoxic?

20 A. Cytotoxic means all the macrophages, the varieties
21 are toxic itself.

22 Q. And if you kill off your macrophages, what effect
23 does that have on your body's ability to handle the
24 asbestos that you inhale?

25 A. Well there are a couple of things going on there.

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1 First, the macrophages, if they are toxic and cannot
2 actually clear the fibers out of the lung very well. And
3 then also if there is a response of these macrophages,
4 that plays a role in the development of the scar tissue
5 disease.

6 Q. Okay. Now, are -- is Chrysotile fibers, are they
7 mutagenic to the cells and do they damage DNA?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What does "mutagenic" mean?

10 A. So, mutagenic means that you're causing errors in
11 specific genes. The concept of asbestos, and
12 particularly Chrysotile being mutagenic, has been shown
13 by several different investigators. The work that I did
14 was more related to a DNA damage, not to mutagenesis.
15 But other scientists have shown that.

16 Q. And have your studies and others shown that
17 Chrysotile causes Mesothelioma, not only in rats and mice
18 but also in humans?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Let me just ask you one thing before I ask you to
21 take your seat. There have been many different
22 researchers that have done inhalation studies with
23 different types of animals; correct?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Is the inhalation model a good model to look for

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1 Mesothelioma causation in animals? Do all animals get
2 Mesothelioma from inhalation of asbestos?

3 A. No. I don't think that's really a good model to
4 study causation. The animal models are best for
5 understanding how asbestos causes the diseases in the
6 species. We know it does, like, in people and rats and
7 certain animals. Yeah.

8 Q. So in order to induce Mesothelioma, what do
9 researchers do besides the type of aerosol asbestos
10 experiments that you do? Do they do injection
11 experiments?

12 A. Yes. Sure. So you can inject the fibers directly
13 into the peritoneal cavity, for example, or into the
14 pleural cavity. And that's a very effective way, with
15 all the asbestos ways, of producing Mesotheliomas.

16 Q. The researchers that do this, are they doing that
17 to establish causation, or are they doing that to
18 establish pathways of carcinogenesis?

19 A. Yes. In the latter, I think, early on in the
20 years of animal experimentation, the idea was to ask if
21 those kinds of studies could tell you about causes. But
22 they're much better at -- those animals experiments are
23 much better at understanding how the agent causes the
24 disease.

25 Q. Now I know you've been asked this in other trials.

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1 Has medical science determined how Mesothelioma develops?

2 A. Well, it really depends on the level at which
3 you're asking the question. I mean, if you ask me do I
4 know the precise genes that it takes for a given
5 individual to create a Mesothelioma? No. You can't do
6 that. But if you ask me do we know that it requires a
7 series of genetic errors caused by oxygen radical
8 production or by DNA binding? Well, sure, we know a lot
9 about those mechanisms.

10 Q. And from your research and what you've viewed in
11 the peer reviewed medical and scientific literature, is
12 there a potency difference between the different types of
13 asbestos?

14 A. There does -- there seems to be. Yes.

15 Q. What's the hierarchy?

16 A. Well it looks like crocidolite is probably the
17 most potent and Amosite next and then Chrysotile, but I
18 don't really know that there's much difference. I don't
19 know the basis for actually determining a difference
20 between crocidolite and Amosite, but there does appear to
21 be some difference and that's variable. I really don't
22 have a number for the real difference.

23 Q. Has anybody been able to scientifically establish
24 the precise potency difference from one fiber to the
25 next?

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1 A. I would say no. And the reason I say that is
2 because if you look in the literature, there's a huge
3 range. I've seen everything from two times more potent
4 to hundreds of times more potent. And some investigators
5 who tried to nail that down have changed their numbers.

6 Q. And to the extent that there is a potency
7 difference, we're talking on a fiber-per-fiber basis;
8 correct?

9 A. That's right.

10 Q. So if you have more quantity of a less potent
11 fiber, how does that compare to less quantity of a more
12 potent fiber?

13 A. Well that's what that means on a fiber-by-fiber
14 basis. So if somebody says, well, this kind of asbestos
15 is a hundred times more potent than Chrysotile, let's
16 say. So that means you need a hundred Chrysotile fibers
17 for every single crocidolite fiber or Amosite fiber, and
18 then you have equal potency. Okay. Well, what if you
19 have a mineral where you have billions or millions of
20 Chrysotile fibers for every one Amphibole? The issue of
21 potency wouldn't make much difference there I wouldn't
22 think.

23 Q. Does the fact that the Amphiboles are more potent
24 negate the potency, the capability of the Chrysotile
25 fibers to cause disease?

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1 A. Not at all.

2 Q. So if you have a person that's exposed to a
3 majority of Chrysotile and a minority of some sort of
4 Amphibole, can we discount all of the Chrysotile exposure
5 and say it must have been the more potent fiber that
6 caused the disease?

7 A. I don't know how you can do that.

8 Q. You've read many articles about asbestos and
9 Mesothelioma. How many articles do you think have been
10 written about asbestos and Mesothelioma as a cause from
11 asbestos exposure?

12 A. Oh, there must be, I don't know, hundreds.
13 Thousands. I'm not sure.

14 Q. Has anybody been able to determine to a reasonable
15 degree of medical certainty or scientific certainty what
16 level of exposure somebody could have to asbestos that
17 would prevent them from getting Mesothelioma?

18 A. No, not that I know. And it's so different for
19 different people, I don't know how one could do that.

20 Q. You also are aware, I think, and there has been
21 testimony in this case -- there are people that have not
22 been occupationally exposed to asbestos who, when they do
23 an autopsy on them, they've found millions of asbestos
24 fibers in their lungs. Have you seen it?

25 A. I've seen it and I've published papers like that.

Further Direct - Brody

1 Sure.

2 Q. What is the significance, numerically, of having
3 millions of asbestos fibers in your lungs?

4 A. Sure. I mean there's a huge range of what can be
5 found in people's lungs. It depends on where you lived
6 and whether or not you worked with asbestos. So if you
7 have millions of fibers that, in and of itself, doesn't
8 say you have had much of an exposure because, I mean, you
9 can fit a billion fibers into a thimble. So, I mean,
10 that doesn't sound like a lot.

11 Q. The last thing I wanted to cover with you is,
12 there's been some testimony that epidemiological studies
13 have shown that anywhere from 80 to 90 percent of
14 Mesotheliomas are caused by asbestos exposure, meaning
15 there's ten to 20 percent that they call idiopathic.
16 You've read literature like that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Does the fact that the cause of a tumor is
19 determined to be idiopathic mean that it's not an
20 asbestos-related tumor?

21 A. No. It doesn't mean that. It just means you
22 don't know the cause. You haven't recorded a cause.

23 Q. And what are -- what are some of the factors in
24 the development of Mesothelioma that may prevent medical
25 scientists and doctors from determining a cause of a

Further Direct - Brody

1 particular Mesothelioma in a patient?

2 A. They might not have a clear picture of that
3 person's history. That would be the most likely
4 possibility for me.

5 Q. What's the average life expectancy of somebody
6 once they've been diagnosed with Mesothelioma?

7 A. It's not much. About 18 months is about the
8 average.

9 Q. Would that have an impact on the ability of
10 researchers looking backwards to try and ask that
11 individual questions about his exposure?

12 A. Well, of course.

13 Q. And then you recognize there's a latency period
14 between when the exposure first occurs and when the
15 disease develops.

16 A. Right.

17 Q. What impact does the fact that there may be 30 or
18 40 years from that initial exposure have on the ability
19 to determine whether that individual was exposed to
20 asbestos or not?

21 A. I'm sure people can forget things.

22 Q. Your Honor, at this time I would like to offer the
23 Curriculum Vitae which is ACC-3562. His initial report
24 which is ACC-3563; the supplemental report which is
25 ACC-3564. And for identification purposes, I've printed

Cross - Brody

1 out a copy of the slides that I've shown, and that's
2 marked as ACC-3566.

3 MR. SCHACHTER: No objection, Your Honor. Sorry.

4 MR. GEORGE: Offer that.

5 THE COURT: Okay. It will be accepted.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Guy. Mr. Schachter,
7 Mr. Guy is going to go next.

8 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

9 BY MR. GUY:

10 Q. Dr. Brody, my name is Jonathan Guy. I represent
11 the future claimants representative in the case,
12 Mr. Grier, who is here in the courtroom. Happily, in
13 this case we're not trying to reach a definitive ruling
14 as to whether Chrysotile asbestos causes Mesothelioma.
15 We're just trying to determine whether there's a credible
16 debate on either side of that issue. I want to ask you
17 about how long that debate has been known in academic
18 circles. If we could pull back up the last slide that
19 had the various --

20 MR. GEORGE: Sure.

21 BY MR. GUY:

22 Q. You testified as to those issues concerning
23 Chrysotile. Have you testified to those issues before in
24 court?

25 A. Sure.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. Many times?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. How long have you held your opinion concerning
4 those issues?

5 A. Well, I started my work with Dr. Chris Wagner in
6 1974. So that's been my understanding since then.

7 Q. And you've published on these issues; correct?

8 A. A number of times. Yes.

9 Q. And have you ever testified in a case where
10 Garlock was the defendant?

11 A. I'm sure I have.

12 Q. Do you have any reason to believe that Garlock
13 would be aware of your opinions concerning these issues
14 in the 2005 to 2010 timeframe?

15 A. I don't know why they wouldn't be. No.

16 Q. Now, are you aware of a medical doctor at Stanford
17 University, Dr. Weill?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. He testified earlier. Were you here to hear his
20 testimony?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Are you familiar with whether he has opinions
23 concerning whether Chrysotile asbestos causes
24 Mesothelioma?

25 A. Some of them. Yes.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. He testified, I believe, and I'm paraphrasing here
2 because I don't have it verbatim. But he said, I think,
3 on the stand, fairly candidly, that there is debate in
4 academic circles as to this issue. Would you agree with
5 that statement?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Why would you disagree?

8 A. Well, "academic circles" means to me multiple
9 places where these kinds of discussions would be debated.
10 I'm in academic circles all the time and I don't hear
11 those debates. Occasionally, if there's a large meeting
12 dealing with asbestos, somebody might bring it up or
13 present a paper. But there's not much of a big debate
14 other than in the courtroom that I know about.

15 Q. But there is a debate; correct?

16 A. There is a debate. Sure.

17 Q. Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Thank you.

19 All right, Mr. Schachter.

20 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

21 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

22 Q. Good afternoon, Dr. Brody.

23 A. Good afternoon.

24 Q. Is this working? Can you hear me?

25 A. Yes. Fine.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. I must have a head cold. I hate to take issue at
2 the start with my learned colleague, but in this case
3 we're dealing with gaskets and packing and not with
4 Chrysotile miners or anybody else. And the issue is
5 about a low-dose asbestos product. Do you understand
6 that?

7 A. Sure.

8 Q. Okay. And the issue isn't about merely whether
9 there's a debate, but we have legal issues about
10 methodology that applies if somebody is going to argue
11 that low-dose Chrysotile products were a cause. So if
12 you don't mind, I'd like to ask you questions that
13 primarily will focus on methodology. Will that be okay,
14 sir?

15 A. If I know something about the method you're asking
16 me, that's fine.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. And I'll let you know if I don't know anything
19 about it.

20 Q. Well, you -- fundamentally, we can agree there's
21 something called the scientific method?

22 A. Of course.

23 Q. And it starts with hypothesis?

24 A. Exactly. Actually, I'm sorry to interrupt you.
25 It actually starts with an observation. And upon that

Cross - Brody

1 observation, then you can form a hypothesis.

2 Q. Thank you. That's exactly what Dr. Garabrant
3 said. And I apologize. For some -- you need some kind
4 of observation that leads to a hypothesis, and then you
5 do scientific testing of the hypothesis; correct?

6 A. That's right.

7 Q. And after the tests are done you decide whether
8 the hypothesis has been established or not established;
9 right?

10 A. Whether the hypothesis has been proven or
11 disproven. Sure.

12 Q. Okay. For almost all toxins -- well, for all
13 toxins, it's a fundamental principle of science that the
14 poison is in the dose. Correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And even for carcinogens, it is a fundamental
17 principle that carcinogens can be dangerous at some
18 levels but not necessarily dangerous for human beings at
19 other levels. Is that correct?

20 A. True.

21 Q. And as you've told us, scientifically, the fact
22 that a person may have millions or even billions of
23 asbestos fibers in his or her lungs does not necessarily
24 create a risk of asbestos disease.

25 A. Not necessarily for a given individual. That's

Cross - Brody

1 correct.

2 Q. All right. And billions can be in a thimble?

3 We've heard a lot of what I will -- we've heard a lot of
4 math about total fibers over years and what that may
5 mean. That's not how scientists look at this. They look
6 at it in fibers per cc and cumulative lifetime exposure
7 based on fibers per cc years; correct?

8 A. True.

9 Q. And there are methodologies for determining
10 scientifically, if we're going to use scientific methods,
11 the levels of exposures associated with disease. And
12 primarily, those are methods that rely on qualified
13 certified industrial hygienists. Correct?

14 A. I agree.

15 Q. And they look at to determine exposure, and then
16 other scientists can determine whether the cumulative
17 lifetime dose from that source is associated with an
18 increased incidence of disease. Would that be correct?

19 A. Right.

20 Q. Now, you have shown us some photographs. Are
21 these photomicrographs or -- they're not that small;
22 right?

23 A. No. You can call it a photomicrograph. It's an
24 electron micrograph, however you'd like to call it.

25 Q. And this is taken from a lung of a rat that you

Cross - Brody

1 studied. Or was this from the literature, sir?

2 A. No. This is from one of my studies.

3 Q. And that rat -- you do these experiments where you
4 put the rats into enclosed chambers; correct?

5 A. As I explained. Right.

6 Q. Yeah. And then they are given -- administered an
7 aerosol continuously for a certain period of time;
8 correct?

9 A. Right.

10 Q. And for a certain length of time. Sometimes
11 you'll have -- what's the shortest period of time?

12 A. I've done half an hour, an hour.

13 Q. Half an hour, an hour, but others will be a week,
14 a month, a year gone? As long as a year?

15 A. Well the longest that I've exposed animals is one
16 day a week for eight weeks and then looked a year later.
17 That's the longest my papers show.

18 Q. Okay. Do you happen to know what the duration was
19 for this slide here?

20 A. Sure. This was an hour.

21 Q. Okay. So this is what a rat's lung looks like
22 after one hour of an exposure to an aerosolized asbestos
23 at a concentration of 1,000 fibers per cc; correct?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. And you have told us that that's comparable based

Cross - Brody

1 on your knowledge of the literature to what insulators or
2 miners might have experienced in an hour; right?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. You did not mean, by showing us this slide, to
5 suggest that it is representative of what would be in the
6 lungs of a mammal, a human being, after installing and
7 removing a gasket; correct?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. You have never attempted to grind up gasket
10 material and administer that to a rat; correct?

11 A. True.

12 Q. And you agree that an exposure level at .1 fiber
13 per cc for one hour would likely not look like that with
14 that accumulation of asbestos on the -- in the slide.
15 Correct?

16 A. I agree.

17 Q. And even if it were at one fiber per cc, it
18 wouldn't look like this; right?

19 A. True.

20 Q. 20 fibers per cc wouldn't look like this?

21 A. That's right.

22 Q. Okay. Actually, in your studies, you have never
23 yourself caused any of the rats to get Mesothelioma.
24 Correct?

25 A. Well, as I was asked, we've not tried to do that.

Cross - Brody

1 That's a specific protocol that needs to be established
2 in order to do that and it's been done many times; I have
3 not.

4 Q. You're aware of something called the Laminar Flow
5 that helps particulate matter navigate by the defense
6 mechanisms in the respiratory system; correct?

7 A. Well, that slide you have up there is a direct
8 result of Laminar Flow. That means that the fibers are
9 flowing in the center of the pathway and then are
10 intercepted by this area of the lung and that's why
11 there's an accumulation there, which is what you get at
12 ten fibers or one fiber per cc, just not as many fibers.
13 But the concept is the same.

14 Q. But you are trying to induce disease, so you use a
15 very pure form of asbestos that can become an aerosol;
16 correct?

17 A. Right.

18 Q. And that form of asbestos does not have any
19 particulate matter attached to it that might cause those
20 fibers to tumble; correct?

21 A. Well you're talking apples and oranges here, I
22 think. I mean, I don't know what you mean by "other
23 particles." So, sure. I use just asbestos. The fibers
24 are carried in a Laminar Flow pattern which you can
25 actually see evidence of in this picture. So, I'm sorry.

Cross - Brody

1 I guess I'm not understanding where you're coming from
2 with tumbling and other particles and things like that.

3 Q. Okay. We have heard from Dr. Weill, who is a --
4 well, he's in charge of the Advanced Lung Disease Clinic
5 at Stanford university. And, of course, you know his
6 father's a famous researcher in asbestos disease; right?

7 A. Sure.

8 Q. And Dr. Weill in his own right has quite
9 impressive credentials. You're not critical of anything
10 about his credentials, are you?

11 A. Of course not.

12 Q. Of course not. Now he has explained to us that
13 encapsulated products have this propensity to tumble,
14 which causes them to impact higher in the respiratory
15 system and not reach the lower portions of the lung as
16 readily.

17 A. I'm sorry. Were you finished? That may -- that
18 may be, but that's certainly not anything I know anything
19 about.

20 Q. Okay. Well, you do. Because in your deposition I
21 asked you, "If they tumble, they can't get through that
22 hole?" And you said, "They're more likely to be
23 obstructed." Correct?

24 A. That's fine. Sure.

25 Q. Okay. We don't have a disagreement there. That's

Cross - Brody

1 all I'm trying to make --

2 A. That's fine.

3 Q. -- scientific disagreement. Now you've talked
4 about two kinds of animal studies where asbestos is
5 administered. One are the inhalation studies; correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And the other kind are injection studies; correct?

8 A. Right.

9 Q. And with the injection studies what the
10 researchers do is they inject the fibers of whatever
11 toxic material they're trying to use directly into the
12 peritoneum, usually?

13 A. Usually, the peritoneum, but it's been done into
14 the pleura cavity as well.

15 Q. They do that because that bypasses all the body's
16 defense mechanisms through the respiratory system;
17 correct?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. And it makes it more likely they'll induce
20 disease; correct?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. Using that technique, ceramic fibers can cause
23 Mesothelioma. Correct?

24 A. That's right.

25 Q. Silica can cause it?

Cross - Brody

1 A. Right.

2 Q. There are a whole host of maybe even not even
3 things that you would call "toxins" that can be used to
4 induce Mesothelioma in animal models; correct?

5 A. By injection, largely fibers.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. That's right.

8 Q. And they are not, for that reason, considered
9 causes -- Mesothelioma-causing agents in humans; correct?

10 A. Right.

11 Q. And I think you mentioned this, that the rat model
12 really doesn't really tell us a whole lot about what
13 induces disease in human beings. Correct?

14 A. Well, in an epidemiological sense, sure. But, I
15 mean, the fact that the beginning of the question, would
16 you agree the rat model is good for understanding the
17 mechanisms of a disease? Well that's what it's all
18 about. Sure.

19 Q. Okay. But even for this issue of Chrysotile. On
20 the macro level, before we even get to the low-dose
21 Chrysotile issue, you agree that these animal studies
22 with rats are not for predicting whether Chrysotile can
23 induce Mesothelioma in humans; correct?

24 A. Not for predicting but they are part of that
25 biological plausibility because you can expose the

Cross - Brody

1 animals to asbestos, Chrysotile, and they get the
2 disease. They cause the genetic errors that are
3 required.

4 Q. I guess what I'm trying to focus on is whether you
5 have a disagreement with what we have briefed to the
6 Court as what the law is and we have -- we have briefed
7 to the Court that studies in rats that use higher doses
8 than occur in human beings just aren't -- aren't part of
9 the proof of causation that it's not relevant to the
10 quantities in the humans.

11 MR. GEORGE: Your Honor, I'm going to object to
12 Dr. Brody's interpretation of what the legal standards
13 are.

14 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

15 Q. I don't mean to ask him a legal question. I
16 withdraw the question, sir.

17 You don't disagree that even scientists are very
18 cautious to draw any kind of conclusions about doses that
19 are unrealistic for the human beings for the product at
20 issue.

21 A. Well, it depends on the question you're asking.
22 Now are you asking, can you draw from the conclusion --
23 from a high dose study, can you draw conclusions about
24 how the disease is caused in people? Sure, you can. If
25 you're asking, can you predict whether or not a person is

Cross - Brody

1 going to get the disease from that dose? No, you cannot.

2 Q. Okay. And that's what we're about in this case.

3 We've got groups of people that have a certain dose of

4 disease and we're trying to figure out whether your

5 studies are even relevant to that. And I think you've --

6 that's why I'm asking the questions.

7 Let's talk about another kind of animal study,

8 you've talked about rat studies. You agree that there

9 have been studies of baboons that have shown that Amosite

10 causes Mesothelioma but the Chrysotile doesn't?

11 A. There is a study like that. Yes.

12 Q. There are monkey studies showing that Amosite

13 causes Mesothelioma and Chrysotile doesn't.

14 A. I'm not sure I've seen those.

15 Q. You're aware of the Stettler studies?

16 A. I thought those were baboons.

17 Q. Okay. Maybe it was. May I approach the witness,

18 Your Honor?

19 THE COURT: Yes.

20 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

21 Q. This was some kind of primate study. Was it

22 baboons?

23 A. Yes, it was.

24 Q. Baboons or monkeys?

25 A. They're primates. That's fine.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. Okay. And this was published by researchers at
2 the National Institutes of Health?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. They're certainly not part of industry; right?

5 A. Right.

6 Q. And it was published just a few years ago; right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. In 2008. And they did a followup of studies for a
9 long time and they found no induction of disease with low
10 dose exposure to Chrysotile, and they reported that that
11 was consistent with other studies of Chrysotile exposure
12 in animals. Correct?

13 A. Well, that's what that says.

14 Q. Thank you.

15 A. I think we've been through this. I looked at
16 those studies and I have found evidence for injury in the
17 lungs of these animals that they're talking about and --

18 Q. Yeah.

19 A. Yeah. So, yeah. You might not like that, but
20 that's true. I looked at those animals and there is
21 injury in the lungs of those animals. And in fact, these
22 monkeys that Dr. Stettler went on to study had so much
23 scars, I'm not even sure how he was able to draw any
24 conclusions from them. But, you know, that's part of
25 this issue where it says lack of pathologic findings with

Cross - Brody

1 low-dose that just isn't the case in fact.

2 Q. Well, actually, you looked at some of the early
3 animals what was it 20 years ago when the first studies
4 were published?

5 A. Yeah in the 1970s. Right.

6 Q. In the 1970s so we have 30 or how many years later
7 after all the animals have died and researchers at the
8 National Institutes of Health have published in a peer
9 reviewed journal that there's no damage. Have you
10 published in a peer reviewed journal your views on
11 looking at those animals from 30 years ago?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Thank you.

14 A. I do not. I corresponded with those authors and
15 we went from there, but these are the monkeys. I was
16 talking about the rats.

17 Q. You were talking about the rats?

18 A. The rats had definite injury and the monkeys had
19 so much scarring that a pathologist who looked at them
20 was wondering how you could actually draw any conclusions
21 from them. But these people did that and that's fine.
22 That's what they did.

23 Q. You agree that the rats that are used in the
24 animal studies are rats that have a genetic
25 susceptibility to develop Mesothelioma?

Cross - Brody

1 A. I'm sorry. I guess -- which studies are you
2 asking me about?

3 Q. Typically, the rat studies that are done involve
4 rats. You're trying to get the disease to occur, so you
5 use a strain of rats with a genetic susceptibility to get
6 Mesothelioma?

7 A. Sometimes you do and many times you don't. I
8 mean, the studies that Dr. Wagner did did not use
9 particularly susceptible animals. They were just garden
10 variety rats just like garden variety people.

11 Q. And the -- you would agree that, biologically,
12 primates are far closer to human beings in their response
13 to potential toxins than rats?

14 A. They're far closer. It depends on which toxin
15 you're looking at. But, sure, as a general principle,
16 they are closer to us. Of course.

17 Q. And to finish out the animal -- the other animals.
18 Hamster studies have been done. Amosite causes
19 Mesothelioma in hamsters but Chrysotile doesn't?

20 A. In that study that's right.

21 Q. Sir, the other aspect of your testimony related to
22 what happens in test tubes when various substances are
23 placed in proximity to cells; correct?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Actually, they're injected into the cells?

Cross - Brody

1 A. No. The fibers are introduced into the cell
2 culture, and the cells actively pick up the fibers just
3 as they do in the body.

4 Q. Okay. And you would agree that after this, the
5 cell would die.

6 A. Very likely to die. But these studies actually go
7 on, as we have done and others, to show that cancers
8 develop in the dish as you're looking at it here. So
9 that -- so they don't all die, in fact.

10 Q. This -- you couldn't develop Mesothelioma in the
11 dish; right?

12 A. Wrong. Okay? Wrong. Because Mesothelioma is a
13 cancer of the mesothelial cells produced by a carcinogen,
14 and that's been done in the dish in my laboratory and a
15 number of others.

16 Q. The fact of the matter is that you don't yet know
17 what the precise genetic errors are that have to be
18 caused in order to create Mesothelioma.

19 A. As I answered in examination directly to Mr.- --
20 to Mr. George, you're exactly right. We know a lot
21 about how it works but we don't know the precise genes
22 that are required. That is true.

23 Q. You agree that longer fibers are generally
24 considered more potent than short fibers without
25 question; correct?

Cross - Brody

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. You agree that the mutagenic effect of asbestos
3 fibers at low-dose is still unknown; correct?

4 A. Where were we talking about? I'm sorry. A
5 mutagen in a dish or a mutagen after inhalation? I'm
6 sorry.

7 Q. What I'm talking about is what's been discussed in
8 a conference, I think, you were involved in, the role of
9 mutagenicity and asbestos fibers may occur in aspects of
10 carcinogenicity and other diseases. Remember that
11 conference?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. All right. And you're familiar with some
14 researchers named -- the last name, I think, is Wang. Is
15 that correct? Well, the pronunciation may not be right.
16 There was a publication that came out, a whole issue in
17 the Journal of Toxicity and Environmental Health;
18 correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. All about this issue of mutagenicity; right?

21 A. Is that the one in 2011?

22 Q. Yeah. Well, yes, 2011. Pretty recent; right?

23 A. Sure.

24 Q. And in Wang's article there was a discussion of
25 "areas that require additional research," and number

Cross - Brody

1 three on the list was the mutagenic effect of asbestos
2 fibers at low-dose is still unknown.

3 A. Right. I get the context now. That's correct.

4 Q. And it is correct. It is your opinion that the
5 mutagenic effect of asbestos at low-dose is still
6 unknown; correct?

7 A. I agree. Yes, sir.

8 Q. You spoke briefly during your exam about what may
9 or may not happen with asbestos in the pleura, the
10 asbestos that passes through the lung and actually makes
11 it to the pleura. Correct?

12 A. Right.

13 Q. And, well, one other question on the mutagenic
14 issue. The type of genetic change that occurs is based
15 in part on the nature of the chemical reaction that
16 occurs on the molecular level; correct?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. And it is a scientific truth, is it not, that the
19 chemical nature of the Amphiboles is distinguishable
20 substantially from the chemical nature of Chrysotile?

21 A. It is. That's true.

22 Q. Now we've heard earlier that the pleura is a
23 structure, as displayed here on the screen, where there
24 is fluid that runs through the area between the two
25 layers of skin. Is that a correct anatomical

Cross - Brody

1 description?

2 A. That's fine. I described that. Yes.

3 Q. Sure. And what you told us is that some
4 researchers have found Chrysotile in the pleura areas;
5 right?

6 A. Right.

7 Q. Actually, they didn't find it in the tissue so
8 much as they did in tumors that existed there; right?

9 A. Well, it was tumor tissue and surrounding tissue,
10 I believe. And, also, I think some had found it in
11 pleura fluid as well.

12 Q. And as a scientific principle, you agree that
13 before these kinds of fiber burden studies in the pleura
14 can tell us important information we would need
15 controlled studies to show what the fiber levels were in
16 healthy people or unexposed people. Correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And so far as you know, there are not a series of
19 controlled studies that have been published on the levels
20 of asbestos fibers in the pleura; correct?

21 A. Yeah. I don't know about a series, but I think
22 normal tissues have been studied. But I don't know if
23 there's a series that it's been done.

24 Q. Okay. But the kinds of fibers -- I mean we're
25 talking about the Suzuki studies. Primarily, those are

Cross - Brody

1 fibers 90 percent of which are one micron in length;
2 correct?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. They're short fibers.

5 A. Right.

6 Q. Short Fibers are ubiquitous in municipal water
7 systems; correct?

8 A. They are. But they wouldn't get into the pleura
9 tissues from the water systems.

10 Q. Well, they get into the body through the water?

11 A. Sure. They're ingested.

12 Q. And autopsies are done with regular street water;
13 correct?

14 A. They're ingested. You're talking about from the
15 water system. They're ingested. No one -- I can't
16 imagine how you get -- how you get fibers in the -- in
17 mesothelial tissue or in the pleura by ingesting fibers.

18 Q. Sir, it is correct, is it not, that the Suzuki
19 studies were funded by a Hawaii plaintiff's lawyer
20 without attribution? Correct?

21 A. I don't know that.

22 Q. You don't know about -- well, okay. And that
23 those studies don't have a series of -- most of the time
24 when they're published -- well, let's just go on past
25 those.

Cross - Brody

1 It is true, is it not, that there are published
2 studies that show that Amphiboles reach the pleura in
3 significant quantities; correct?

4 A. Sure, they do.

5 Q. Sure. And Dr. Welch -- Dr. Weill explained to us
6 that the structure of the pleura is such that short
7 fibers can pass through the pleura and exit through the
8 lymphatic system. Do you agree or disagree with that
9 proposition as a scientific fact?

10 A. No, I agree.

11 Q. And do you agree or disagree that the long fibers
12 have much more propensity not to be able to get out
13 through the stoma, out of the lymphatic system?

14 A. True.

15 Q. All right. And that has been published by
16 Donaldson in 2010; correct?

17 A. That's one of the places. Yes.

18 Q. You agree, sir, that the concept of a threshold
19 may depend on fiber type, correct, and whether it's
20 Chrysotile or crocidolite or amosite?

21 A. No. I don't understand that. Because a threshold
22 is the level below which you -- above which you're trying
23 to find an effect. So that could be for any fiber type.

24 Q. Well, maybe it isn't.

25 A. Maybe I didn't understand your question.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. Maybe I didn't ask it correctly. Let me repeat
2 the question. You agree that the concept of a threshold
3 may depend on the fiber type, whether it's Chrysotile or
4 crocidolite or Amosite?

5 A. I'm sorry. The concept of a threshold is the
6 ability to be able to find a level above or below which
7 you can find an effect. But that concept would be the
8 same whatever the fiber type.

9 Q. Well, sir, I don't mean to argue with you.

10 A. I don't want to argue either.

11 Q. We know that something different's going on with
12 Chrysotile; right?

13 A. I don't know what you mean by "something
14 different." I mean, please --

15 Q. Sure. I'll be more clear. You were asked in your
16 deposition in this case, "Do you agree that the concept
17 of a threshold may depend on the fiber type, whether it's
18 Chrysotile or crocidolite or amosite?" Correct? And you
19 said, "That may be true."

20 A. Well if the concept is the level, is the
21 threshold, then, sure. But if the concept is
22 establishing a threshold, then I don't see any difference
23 in how you do that.

24 Q. Back to the issue of the Suzuki studies. Do you
25 agree that autopsies are done with regular municipal

Cross - Brody

1 water usually?

2 A. I would think so. Yes.

3 Q. Yeah. And the samples that Suzuki was looking at
4 were samples that were harvested in typical autopsy
5 processes; correct?

6 A. I think so.

7 Q. Okay. What you've told us, sir, is that basically
8 you -- that the precise mechanism is not understood and
9 there are a number of different theories about how
10 asbestos fiber types may induce Mesothelioma; correct?

11 A. So I told you the levels at which we do know and
12 don't know the answers to certain questions. And I guess
13 you'd have to go on then with the next part of your
14 question.

15 Q. Okay. Do you agree, sir, with Dr. Mossman that
16 it's a very complex issue, this mutagenesis issue, and
17 that we don't yet even know if we're dealing with one
18 kind of tumor or several types of tumors?

19 A. That's fine.

20 Q. By "that's fine," you mean you agree?

21 A. Yeah, I agree. That's fine.

22 Q. Sure. Sir, let's see. We've heard a lot in this
23 case about OSHA regulations and various protective
24 procedures instituted at various times, including a few
25 years ago. You agree, sir, that the people that write

Cross - Brody

1 OSHA regulations and public health agencies have a charge
2 to be protective of public health; right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And they want to build in a safety margin in any
5 of their safety standards.

6 A. Well I would think so, but I'm certainly not
7 conversant with the things that OSHA does and says.

8 Q. We've heard that public health agencies look at
9 data that has accumulated in what's called a zone of
10 observation and then they make projections to a zone of
11 inference. Are you familiar with that fact?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Then we'll go on.

14 So, we have theories. You -- the lawyer here has
15 called it plausibility. It's plausible, for example,
16 that cigarette smoking causes Mesothelioma; right?

17 A. That would be plausible. And that was tested and
18 found not to be true, but it's plausible. Sure.

19 Q. And it's plausible because lots of cases have been
20 reported of Mesothelioma among people who have an
21 occupational history of exposure to cigarette smoke;
22 right?

23 A. Right.

24 Q. We could get a case series of 30,000 cases like
25 that if we wanted to go through the literature; right?

Cross - Brody

1 A. Right.

2 Q. All right. And, of course, it's clear that there
3 are lots of carcinogens in cigarette smoke; right?

4 A. Sure.

5 Q. And clear that they get to the pleura.

6 A. I'm sure. Well, actually, I don't know that
7 that's clear actually. In fact, that might be the reason
8 that cigarette smoking has nothing to do with
9 Mesothelioma, that the carcinogens may not get to the
10 pleura. I don't know if that's been established.

11 Q. Have you seen the -- well, let me just show you --
12 I think we have a picture of -- I don't have it here. We
13 showed a picture earlier of the black spots that exist on
14 the pleura, and the explanation was that tars from
15 cigarettes accumulate in the stoma.

16 A. Well, yes. I've seen that, actually. You
17 actually gave an outline, a black outline around the --

18 Q. The tars in cigarette?

19 A. I'm sorry.

20 Q. Go ahead.

21 A. We don't know that those are carcinogenic. In
22 other words, we don't know that -- if, in fact, those
23 were carcinogens that were collecting in those areas I
24 can't say, but I'd expect there to be high rates of
25 Mesotheliomas.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. But just because a carcinogen reaches the pleura
2 tissue does not necessarily mean that that carcinogen
3 produces the rare type of cancer we call Mesothelioma;
4 right?

5 A. That's why you have to do all the studies that
6 allow you to draw the conclusions. And the studies
7 asking if cigarette smoke causes it say it doesn't.

8 Q. And the studies as we've heard were
9 epidemiological studies; right?

10 A. Right.

11 Q. And the epidemiology demonstrated that despite the
12 theories, some of the associations were a little above
13 one, some below, but none were statistically significant.
14 And generally, they were around or lower than one so that
15 we knew cigarette smoke is not a cause of Mesothelioma;
16 right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You would agree that the acid test of who gets the
19 disease and what causes it is epidemiology, of course.
20 Right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. These are your words: So whatever theories we
23 might have we've got to look at the epidemiology.

24 A. Right.

25 Q. Now you started the exam -- the exam was started

Cross - Brody

1 -- you have no control over the questions that are asked,
2 I understand -- with a discussion of the Bradford-Hill
3 criteria.

4 Q. And you are aware sir -- well, let me just go back
5 to the document that Mr. George -- Mr. George read to
6 you.

7 MR. GEORGE: Your Honor, I have no objection to
8 Dr. Brody answering questions about the Bradford-Hill
9 criteria. Again, I would object to him interpreting what
10 the legal significance of that is.

11 THE COURT: All right. We'll let him testify.

12 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

13 Q. Sir, Mr. George read to you this paragraph from
14 the address that Sir Austin Bradford-Hill gave, I think
15 it was in 1965. Is that what we -- you read at the
16 beginning of the examination?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Okay. And that comes in the article, as you know,
19 after Sir Austin Bradford-Hill has listed his nine
20 criteria. Correct?

21 A. Right.

22 Q. And in what you read, it's clear that he asks did
23 -- he says, there are nine viewpoints from all of which
24 we should study association before we cry causation.
25 Correct?

Cross - Brody

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Before listing his criteria, is it true that he
3 wrote, disregarding, then, any such problem in semantics
4 we have this situation. Our observations reveal an
5 association between two variables, perfectly clear-cut
6 and beyond what we would care to attribute to the play of
7 chance. What aspects of that association should we
8 especially consider before deciding that the most likely
9 interpretation of it is causation? Did that -- is that
10 how he introduced his criteria?

11 A. Right.

12 Q. Okay. Would it be a fair construction of this
13 document that from a scientific point, as you view the
14 scientific literature, Sir Austin Bradford-Hill was
15 saying, okay. I've got an association perfectly
16 clear-cut and beyond what we attribute to the theory of
17 chance. Now I'm going to apply these criteria?

18 A. That's what he's saying.

19 Q. And you agree, sir, that the way epidemiology
20 works, to the extent you understand it, is that studies
21 are done to determine whether the relative risk is
22 statistically significant. Correct?

23 A. Well, that's the way epidemiologists do it. But,
24 I mean, typically -- but I'm not an epidemiologist. So
25 you'd need to ask an epidemiologist if they do that all

Cross - Brody

1 the time. But, I mean, also, Dr. Hill, Bradford-Hill,
2 also said in that article, if I remember correctly, that
3 he wouldn't require a statistical test. I believe
4 there's a paragraph in there that says that. So he's
5 relying more on the individual criteria that he uses,
6 rather than a statistical test.

7 Q. Sir, the best paragraph for your side was read at
8 the beginning of your examination and it says what it
9 says.

10 MR. GEORGE: I would object to the
11 characterization of the testimony and move to strike.

12 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

13 Q. I apologize. Sir, if we look at how epidemiology
14 works. Your example, smoking and Mesothelioma, are the
15 examples, smoking and Mesothelioma shows it's a search
16 for a statistically significant increased relative risk.
17 Correct?

18 A. I agree.

19 Q. Okay. Now just so there's no doubt, you would
20 agree that Chrysotile differs chemically from the
21 Amphiboles. Correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. It differs electrically from the Amphiboles?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. It has a shorter duration in the body.

Cross - Brody

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. It's structurally different. It's curly, as
3 opposed to spear-like or straight, which the amphiboles
4 are.

5 A. Many of the fibers are. Yes.

6 Q. And they're easily broken.

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. We looked at the chemical formulas and they're
9 completely different. Not completely, but substantial
10 differences in the chemical formulas. Right?

11 A. True.

12 Q. You've talked to us about your background. You
13 studied with Dr. Wagner first; is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And that was the famous Dr. Wagner who in 1960 had
16 the case series that talked about the probable connection
17 between crocidolite and Mesothelioma; correct?

18 A. Right.

19 Q. And later, a number of studies were done and
20 confirms the association between crocidolite and
21 Mesothelioma; right?

22 A. True.

23 Q. All right. And ultimately, he -- and he did these
24 animal studies, these rat studies, some of them that were
25 the first rat studies that were published. Right?

Cross - Brody

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. He ultimately concluded that Chrysotile was not a
3 cause of Mesothelioma in human beings; correct?

4 He ultimately concluded crocidolite was the only asbestos
5 that causes Mesothelioma. So he refuses the amosite data
6 and Tremolite data. So in other words, at some point in
7 his career he -- oh, I'm sorry Your Honor (cell phone
8 rings). It's off. I apologize.

9 THE COURT: That's okay.

10 THE WITNESS: Where was I? Okay.

11 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

12 Q. You were explaining to us that Dr. Wagner not only
13 didn't believe the that Chrysotile was the cause, but he
14 also had some questions about amosite. Right?

15 A. Yeah. Right. Well, he said he had this
16 crocidolite hypothesis that it was the only cause. I
17 don't know any other scientist that thought that way. I
18 don't know why he changed his mind, but he precipitously
19 did so. So, you know, one could guess, but I'm not sure
20 why.

21 Q. Okay. We don't want your guess, sir.

22 A. Yeah, right. So Dr. Wagner, when I worked with
23 him, showed me that Chrysotile causes Mesothelioma.

24 Q. And you formed that opinion in the '70s; right?

25 A. Right.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. And after that, I guess starting in the '80s, you
2 began testifying for, primarily, plaintiffs in the
3 asbestos litigation. Correct?

4 A. In the -- yes '89, early '90s. Yes.

5 Q. And as new literature developed, you didn't change
6 your opinion on that; right?

7 A. No. Because the new literature was quite clear in
8 supporting that opinion that Chrysotile causes
9 Mesothelioma.

10 Q. Your view of the literature is that it supports
11 that, sir. Right?

12 A. My view of the literature is that it supports it.
13 That's fine.

14 Q. All right. And you studied also under another
15 very famous researcher named John E. Craighead; correct?

16 A. Right.

17 Q. And he is the author of a 2008, or the editor of
18 the Oxford University Press book Asbestos and Its
19 Diseases. Correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And you still consider him a very fine scientist?

22 A. Sure.

23 Q. And he's your mentor or one of your mentors?

24 A. He was. Yes.

25 Q. And he has reviewed the evidence as it has evolved

Cross - Brody

1 and is of a view that the evidence is totally convincing
2 that Chrysotile does not cause Mesothelioma. Right?

3 A. That's his view.

4 Q. All right. And now we're going to a talk and
5 focus in on this case. We've talked about the thousand
6 fiber per cc miners, and I'm sure we'll hear more about
7 mining populations. But you would agree that it is the
8 consensus of the medical community that Chrysotile-
9 induced Mesothelioma only occurs with very high exposure.
10 Correct?

11 A. Well, you read my answer. I would, as a general
12 principle, think that it's true. I mean that's where
13 most of the cases come from, but there are numerous
14 reports of cases from low-dose exposures

15 Q. We have case reports and we'll deal with case
16 reports. But you agreed in your deposition and still
17 agree, sir, that if we're looking for a consensus in the
18 medical community, it's that Chrysotile-induced
19 Mesothelioma only occurs with very high exposures.
20 Correct?

21 A. No. Where does it say "only?" "Only occurs?"
22 That's where most -- that's where most of the cases come
23 from are from high exposures. That's what that says.

24 Q. Let me just make sure your answer is in the
25 record. The question was, at your deposition would you

Cross - Brody

1 agree that it is the consensus of the medical community
2 that Chrysotile-induced Mesothelioma only occurs with
3 very high exposures? And your answer was, I would as a
4 general principle -- I think that's true. I mean that is
5 where most of the Mesothelioma is caused by Chrysotile
6 come. Right?

7 A. Exactly. That's not where they all come from.
8 That's where most of them come from.

9 Q. In fact, that is published in a book that is
10 authored by a very famous scientist, including physicians
11 at the Mayo Clinic. Right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And when they do it, they go on to say that it's
14 only at very high exposures. And they talk about where
15 that's been shown as being in the mining situations where
16 there is a very high level of asbestos that can be found
17 in the miners' bodies. Right?

18 A. That's where most of the cases come from. That's
19 right.

20 Q. Sir, we talked a little bit about potency. There
21 have been researchers and published health analysts who
22 have looked at the level that even assuming that we're
23 dealing with Chrysotile in the mining situation what the
24 potency is on a fiber per fiber basis. Correct?

25 A. Yes.

Cross - Brody

1 Q. Now in this case, at great expense, we've had a
2 lot of information developed about people who may make
3 claims against Garlock in the future and they've been
4 grouped into various categories. I'll represent to you
5 that those group groups have been identified to the Court
6 and a retrospective exposure assessment has been done
7 using the methodologies for doing that kind of work and
8 that even in the highest exposure category the relative
9 contribution in terms of fibers from lifetime cumulative
10 exposure is shown. For the pipefitters here it would be
11 5.5 in one year, 5.5 fibers per cc year as opposed to
12 gaskets, even if you assume three a day. I think it's
13 three a day.

14 A. You know, I'm sorry to interrupt. I have no idea
15 what you're talking about.

16 MR. GEORGE: I was going to object to the
17 foundation.

18 THE WITNESS: Why are you showing me this?

19 MR. GEORGE: He's a cell biologist.

20 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

21 Q. Yeah. You have testified, sir, that asbestos --
22 that amosite is 500 times more potent on a fiber-per-
23 fiber basis. Correct?

24 A. Okay. That's not my testimony that it is. It's
25 my testimony that there is a scientist Hodgson and

Cross - Brody

1 Darnton who said crocidolite was 500 times and amosite is
2 100 times. Yeah, sure, that's fine. I don't think there
3 really is a good number because they changed their
4 numbers after that.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. So, please, go ahead I guess.

7 Q. Thank you. You testified before a jury in a trial
8 in Boston, and I believe this happened in 2006. Right?

9 A. Whatever the date is.

10 Q. 2006. Now we've heard some testimony in this
11 case, or seen some articles written before 2006 by
12 Nicholson and Boffetta and Allan Smith. And you were
13 aware of all that literature. You're up on the asbestos
14 litigation; right?

15 A. Mostly, yes.

16 Q. All right. So that was all in the literature as
17 of 2006. And you testified, did you not, to this 500
18 number. And you mentioned Hodgson and Darnton and
19 others. But the lawyer who was asking you questions, and
20 it wasn't me. You said in answer to one of them that 500
21 was my number. And the lawyer asked you, that is your
22 opinion? And you said, that's my opinion. Correct? The
23 difference between amosite and Chrysotile was 500 that
24 you testified before that jury in 2006. Right?

25 A. Okay. That's fine. I think it was 500 for

Cross - Brody

1 crocidolite, actually, on that paper, and 100 for
2 amosite. But I'm also testifying today that they changed
3 those numbers. And I don't think those numbers are
4 really mean very meaningful, if the authors who put them
5 together have changed them.

6 Q. Sir, even in this case when I took your deposition
7 you said that -- you said there were a lot of numbers in
8 the literature, but you said that the 500 number is a
9 good number.

10 A. I'm sorry. I said?

11 Q. Huh?

12 A. I'm sorry. What did I say?

13 Q. Just a second. Let me get your testimony. This
14 is from your testimony a few months ago. Isn't it true
15 that you previously testified that amosite is 500 times
16 more potent than Chrysotile in causing Mesothelioma? And
17 your answer was, on a fiber-per-fiber basis, absolutely.
18 And let me get the next pages. It went on for a while.
19 And you made these explanations about the Hodgson and
20 Darnton --

21 A. Can we see that? Actually, I think I just said
22 the same thing.

23 Q. Here?

24 A. No. I mean put it under the thing there so we can
25 see it. It's exactly what I just said. "Okay. All I'm

Cross - Brody

1 trying to point out is that my testimony yesterday is
2 under oath and today under oath." Next page.

3 Q. (Indicating.)

4 A. "That the Amphibole fibers are more potent on a
5 fiber-per-fiber bases. That's all it means, whether it's
6 500 times, which I've testified to and I agree with, or
7 two times in some studies, 800 times in others. On a
8 fiber-per-fiber basis what that means is you may need 500
9 Chrysotiles for every Amphibole. That is fine. It
10 depends on what the person is exposed to. That's all I
11 want the jury to understand."

12 So, I'm -- the 500 times number by these authors
13 Hodgson and Darnton has been changed. So you show -- you
14 can show me this, which is exactly what I've told you,
15 but these numbers have changed. Please go ahead.

16 Q. Okay. And buried in all that explanation, you
17 ultimately said 500 is a good number. Right?

18 A. Well within the explanation that I gave for the
19 numbers? Sure.

20 Q. What you're referring to is --

21 A. It's no better than -- I'm sorry. It's no better
22 than two times. It's no better than 800 times because we
23 don't know the number.

24 Q. You are -- sir, you agree that there's reputable
25 scientific evidence that Chrysotile is far less potent on

Cross - Brody

1 a fiber-per-fiber basis than amosite in causing
2 Mesothelioma?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And that's a consensus of the scientific community
5 is that the causes of Mesothelioma at all, Chrysotile is
6 far less potent?

7 A. Yes. And I don't think we know just how much the
8 differences in potency are.

9 Q. But, for example, if we had a pipefitter -- if we
10 look at the pipefitter numbers before this court. As a
11 scientific principle, it would be important to include
12 potency, a potency factor, in any of the exposure that
13 would be attributable to the Amphibole containing
14 insulation; correct?

15 A. Sure, if you knew what it was. If you didn't know
16 what it was, I don't know how helpful that would be.

17 Q. All right. And if in fact those numbers that we
18 gave to the Court were to take into account your potency
19 limit at only 50 times one order of magnitude less, it
20 would greatly swell the relative contribution of the
21 component of the exposure that was from insulation.
22 Correct?

23 A. Just as a general principle? Sure. But I can't
24 speak to what's in the insulation to begin with.

25 Q. Thank you, doctor.

Redirect - Brody

1 A. You're welcome.

2 **REDIRECT EXAMINATION**

3 BY MR. GEORGE:

4 Q. Some quick followup. Dr. Brody, I'm just going to
5 go from the front back. I want to start -- what I want
6 to start with is, I want to ask you about --
7 Mr. Schachter put up a slide that talked about the
8 studies of the animals. One of the studies he put up was
9 the Stettler study, the slide he said was monkeys,
10 amosite get Mesothelioma and Chrysotile don't. But the
11 Stettler study has nothing to do with Mesothelioma;
12 correct?

13 A. Well this says Histopathology and that's why I
14 responded by saying I looked at those monkeys and they
15 were a mess.

16 Q. What this was, they did a chronic exposure for 18
17 months. They exposed rats and monkeys to a level of
18 about 0.79 fibers per cc. They sacrificed the first
19 group by 24 months. That's the paper that Platek wrote?

20 A. Right.

21 Q. Then they went back 11 and a half years later and
22 looked at the surviving monkeys and sacrificed them to
23 see what was happening.

24 A. Right.

25 Q. Now, one thing we know is that there was only an

Redirect - Brody

1 11-year latency period.

2 A. Right.

3 Q. Would we expect that if they waited longer there
4 would be more effect from exposure?

5 A. Could very well be sure.

6 Q. Do we know what the latency period is in a monkey?

7 A. We don't.

8 Q. They say that -- the other thing that he didn't
9 mention is when they did this study they used short
10 Chrysotile which had been prepared by ball milling. Do
11 you know what ball milling is?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you explain what ball milling is?

14 A. Well, when you take a sample of asbestos you can
15 break it up using a large ball and it breaks it down into
16 smaller fibers, mills it.

17 Q. Does that have an effect when an animal inhales
18 ball-milled Chrysotile as opposed to inhaling regular
19 Chrysotile?

20 A. Well, there are shorter fibers. But, obviously,
21 in the studies I've done, and this study, they cause
22 disease. Short fibers cause disease.

23 Q. And what the authors found is the actual
24 authority, short fiber exposure in the present study was
25 quite small. But they go on to say 52 percent of all

Redirect - Brody

1 particles examined by scanning electron microscope -- and
2 that's what you use; right?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. Were non-fibrous, primarily clumps of small
5 Chrysotile fibers produced by ball milling of bulk
6 Chrysotile. These clumps of Chrysotile remained in tact
7 in the SEM microconographs of the rat lungs. In addition,
8 it should be remembered that short Chrysotile was
9 prepared by ball milling. Other investigators have noted
10 that mechanical milling changes the crystalline structure
11 and the surface chemistry of Chrysotile, since service
12 cell chemistry is thought to play an important role in
13 fiber-related lung fibrosis and carcinogenicity may have
14 affected the fiber. It should be noted that the design
15 of the present study allowed for only a small number of
16 animals and low exposure levels and duration relative to
17 human exposures. Hence, the ability to draw inferences
18 from this data is limited.

19 Do you agree with that?

20 A. Sure.

21 Q. He also talked to you about the baboon studies.
22 Now, he didn't tell you that in the Goldstein baboon
23 study they had no idea how much exposure that the
24 Chrysotile baboon had in relation to the exposure that
25 the other baboons had. If that baboon had less exposure,

Redirect - Brody

1 would that be a reason why maybe that baboon did not
2 develop Mesothelioma?

3 A. Sure.

4 Q. If the baboon had equal exposure and if Chrysotile
5 is more potent, then we wouldn't expect Chrysotile to be
6 induced on equal exposures of Chrysotile for crocidolite.
7 True?

8 A. Sure.

9 Q. If we wanted to find out if Chrysotile causes
10 Mesothelioma in baboons we would need to give them more
11 Chrysotile than amosite and crocidolite. Correct?

12 A. Sure.

13 Q. And then in the last study, Hiroshima, they gave
14 the baboons Chrysotile for eight and a half to 24 months.
15 But they gave the amosite for 49 months and the
16 crocidolite for 35 months, which was the dose that
17 produced the Mesothelioma. Would the fact that there was
18 less exposure from Chrysotile be an explanation of why
19 the baboons did not get disease?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Are you familiar -- you were asked some questions
22 about iron. Are you familiar with the paper that just
23 came out in 2012 on iron overloads signature in
24 Chrysotile-induced malignant Mesothelioma?

25 A. Yes.

Redirect - Brody

1 Q. And they found -- in fact, they did exposures.
2 They produced Mesotheliomas with all three types of
3 asbestos and they said that these data indicate that
4 Chrysotile is a strong carcinogen when exposed to the
5 mesothelia acting through the induction of local iron
6 overload. What does that mean?

7 A. Well all the asbestos varieties generate oxygen
8 radicals, and the iron in the fibers is the catalyst for
9 that. And some people think that Chrysotile might have
10 lower potency because it has less iron but, in fact,
11 we've known that it accumulates iron over time. And
12 that's really what that paper addresses. It accumulates
13 iron and can, therefore, generate oxygen radicals and act
14 as a carcinogen. We published in my laboratory in 2004,
15 the fact that Chrysotile asbestos generates oxygen
16 radicals and, therefore, is part of the carcinogenic
17 process.

18 Q. If it's a carcinogen when exposed to mesothelia,
19 does that mean it's capable of producing a Mesothelioma,
20 which is a cancer of the mesothelial cells?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. You were asked about the Hill causation. And you
23 had said you thought you remembered a section about test
24 of significance. Is this the section that you remember?

25 A. Yes.

Redirect - Brody

1 Q. It says that no formal tests of significance can
2 answer those questions. Such tests can and should remind
3 us of the effects that the play of chance can create, and
4 they will instruct us of the likely magnitude of those
5 effects. But beyond that, they contribute nothing to the
6 proof of our hypothesis. Does that mean that Hill's
7 requiring that you have a doubling of the risk with a
8 statistical significance, not including one?

9 A. No.

10 Q. You talked about the fact that Hodgson and
11 Darnton's numbers of 500 to 100 to one. You were asked
12 about that at trial in 2006?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. That was seven years ago; right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In 2010, four years after that testimony, Hodgson
17 and Darnton wrote a letter to the editor saying based on
18 the new data coming out of North Carolina we were off by
19 a factor of ten. Is that right?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Would the fact these authors who came up with the
22 ratio of 500 to 100 to one changed it by a magnitude of
23 ten alter your opinion as to what their belief is as to
24 potency?

25 A. Right. Which is why Mr. Schachter and I went

Recross - Brody

1 through that about what is really a good number and what
2 isn't.

3 Q. If we reduced by a magnitude of ten, we're really
4 talking about a ratio of 50 to ten to one, right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Thank you very much.

7 RECROSS EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. SCHACHTER:

9 Q. Jiang was a rat study?

10 A. I'm sorry?

11 Q. Jiang was a study in rats, the study he showed you
12 there. Do you know or not know?

13 A. I don't. I don't remember. This one we just saw,
14 you mean?

15 Q. Yeah, the Jiang.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And the Hodgson and Darnton point is -- what they
18 did was they said that the data in Loomis varied by, from
19 their numbers, by a factor of ten. Correct?

20 A. I don't remember them saying that. But if that's
21 what it says, fine.

22 Q. And Loomis is the article co-written by Dr. Dement
23 and containing data on the Marshville plant; is that
24 correct?

25 A. That's what I understand.

Recross - Brody

1 Q. All right. We'll hear more about that later.

2 Thank you, sir.

3 A. You're welcome.

4 THE COURT: Okay. You can step down. Thank you.

5 (Witness excused at 3:18 p.m.)

6 THE COURT: Why don't we take a break now and come
7 back at 3:30?

8 Let me -- just housekeeping-wise, let me say
9 Mr. Moon you may want to listen to this because I don't
10 see Mr. Swett or Mr. Inselbuch. Somebody has filed a
11 motion with respect to the confidentiality. So if you
12 are you all aware of that?

13 MR. MOON: I've seen it.

14 THE COURT: I won't do anything about that until
15 tomorrow -- maybe tomorrow morning. If you all want to
16 file something in response to that, if anybody wants to
17 file any response to that, do so as soon as you can.
18 We'll deal with that in the morning, probably without a
19 hearing. Okay? Thank you. Be back at 3:30.

20 (Off the record at 3:19 p.m.)

21 (On the record at 3:32 p.m.)

22 THE COURT: Have a seat. Let's go on to whatever
23 is next.

24 MR. FROST: Thank you, Your Honor. We'd call Carl
25 Brodkin.

Direct - Brodkin

(Witness duly sworn at 3:32 p.m.)

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. FROST:

Q. Good afternoon, Dr. Brodkin. Can you please state and spell your name for the record?

A. Carl Andrew Brodkin. C-A-R-L. A-N-D-R-E-W. B-R-O-D-K-I-N.

Q. And Dr. Brodkin, what is your specialty?

A. I'm a physician in Occupational and Environmental Medicine and internal medicine.

Q. And just briefly, what areas of expertise does it take to be a specialist in Occupational and Environmental Medicine?

A. As in other branches of medicine, one has to complete medical school, a residency training program with internship and residency, and then advanced training for fellowship.

THE COURT: The first thing you've got to do is pass chemistry, which is what I couldn't do.

THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor. Yes. Organic chemistry is the weed-out class.

BY MR. FROST:

Q. I couldn't pass that either. Maybe that's why we're lawyers.

Dr. Brodkin, where did you graduate? And when you

Direct - Brodtkin

1 graduated, did you receive any honors?

2 A. I attended Swarthmore College where I got my
3 bachelor's degree. I then went to my home state of
4 Colorado to the University of Colorado for medical
5 school. I graduated with honors from medical school.

6 Q. And in fact, Dr. Brodtkin, weren't you in the top
7 of your class in medical school?

8 A. Well, I was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha which is
9 the Honoured Medical Society.

10 Q. Now I have a slide here that just has some of the
11 things so we can talk about these briefly. I think you
12 just talked about the Alpha Omega Alpha. Have you ever
13 done any fellowships and worked with the ATSDR?

14 A. Yes. After I completed fellowship training in
15 Occupational Medicine I did another year of fellowship
16 training in Environmental Medicine with ATSDR.

17 Q. And I have the American college of Occupational
18 and Environmental Medicine. How does that play into your
19 background and experience?

20 A. The American College of Occupational Medicine is
21 the largest body in the U.S. of Occupational Medicine
22 physicians. I've been a member for almost 20 years since
23 I've completed my fellowship in Occupational Medicine.
24 I'm a fellow of the college and also served on the Lung
25 Disorders Committee of the American College.

Direct - Brodtkin

1 Q. And are you board certified in Occupational
2 Medicine?

3 A. Yes. After I completed internal medicine I became
4 board certified in that specialty. And after I completed
5 specialty training in Occupational Medicine I became
6 board certified in that area.

7 Q. And I have the Fred Hutchison Cancer Research
8 Center. How does that play in your background?

9 A. In my fellowship in Occupational Medicine I became
10 interested in asbestos-related disease and became a
11 co-investigator of a large cohort of asbestos-exposed
12 workers, over 4,000 workers, and that was organized
13 through the Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center. It
14 was a large National Cancer Institute study to look at
15 risk factors and the development of cancer and
16 antioxidants and vitamins that may prevent those cancers.
17 I had the opportunity to follow those workers for more
18 than 17 years. They're still being followed.

19 Q. And in fact, have you given safety lectures in the
20 past?

21 A. I have. Certainly, local unions have asked me to
22 participate in lectures. I gave the Dunn Memorial
23 lecture for the Pipefitters Local in northern Oregon and
24 southern Washington, my home state now, about health and
25 safety issues.

Direct - Brodtkin

1 Q. And so you've had experience with not only talking
2 to pipefitters but, also, in some of your studies you
3 have followed people who were pipefitters and those type
4 of people?

5 A. Yes. Where I practice in Seattle, there's a large
6 shipyard industry. And I've seen thousand -- of the
7 thousands of workers I've seen over the years, probably
8 about a third of them at some time have worked in the
9 shipyard industry. So I'm familiar with that and with
10 the CARET study through Fred Hutchison. Of those 4,000
11 workers, almost 1,000 of them, or a quarter, were
12 pipefitters.

13 Q. And in fact, I have a slide up there that has the
14 CARET study. Just briefly, what was the CARET study?

15 A. The CARET study was a prospective randomized
16 epidemiologic study to look at whether antioxidants and
17 vitamins prevented cancers in high risk individuals,
18 including smokers and asbestos-exposed workers. The
19 asbestos-exposed cohort was over 4,000 workers and
20 allowed an opportunity not only to look at whether the
21 vitamins were effective but, really, at the natural
22 history of asbestos-related disease and the development
23 of malignancies in that group.

24 We stopped the trial in 1996 because the vitamins,
25 unfortunately, were not effective in reducing cancer

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1 rates. But we were able, certainly, to follow those
2 workers and do many publications and have increased
3 knowledge regarding asbestos exposure which have come
4 from the CARET study, and I participated in a number of
5 them.

6 Q. And I have up there pipefitters. Were they part
7 of this group? And how many folks were part of it?

8 A. They were. Pipefitters were the largest group,
9 about 1,000, a quarter of the workers. The others
10 included other shipyard trades. There were over 700
11 boilermakers, about 250 insulators and some other
12 shipyard trades, as well as plasterboard workers.

13 Q. So there were more pipefitters in your study than
14 even insulators?

15 A. Oh, yes.

16 Q. And so that was a large group in this study group
17 that you had worked with?

18 A. Yes. The insulator unions are -- tend to be much
19 smaller in our area than the pipefitters in terms of
20 numbers, so that's reflected in the CARET study.

21 Q. And where you have up there, "pipefitters 40 cases
22 of Mesothelioma." Among those thousand workers there was
23 at least 40 cases of Mesothelioma?

24 A. Well, 40 cases occurred in the cohorts. So, among
25 the 4,000.

Direct - Brodtkin

1 Q. I'm sorry?

2 A. Among the 4,000 workers there were 40
3 Mesotheliomas. That's about one percent of the
4 population. So of the cohort, for a rare disease like
5 Mesothelioma which occurs in about one in a million
6 individuals, it's an extremely high rate. There were
7 about 11 Mesotheliomas in the pipefitters. So, over one
8 percent.

9 Q. So 11 of the 40 were in the pipefitters?

10 A. Eleven of the 998 were among the pipefitters.

11 Q. Okay. Now -- and you mentioned this briefly. But
12 that CARET study and this characterization of asbestos,
13 this -- as an asbestos cohort, you've actually published
14 this with other authors?

15 A. Yes. There were a number of co-investigators. I
16 was one of this group of co-investigators, and this is
17 one of the publications that characterizes the types of
18 workers and how workers entered the CARET study.

19 Q. And there were other articles that were -- this
20 same group of people, but there's multiple articles that
21 you were a co-author on dealing with this study.

22 Correct?

23 A. That's correct. Most of my 50 -- approximately 40
24 to 50 peer review publications are related to asbestos,
25 and many of them are through the CARET study.

Direct - Brodtkin

1 Q. Now -- and we'll get to a few of these. Was this
2 one also related to the CARET study, the one with Harvey
3 Checkoway?

4 A. Yes. This was looking at the correlation between
5 respiratory symptoms and lung function between asbestos-
6 exposed workers.

7 Q. Now you mentioned just briefly you have published
8 on asbestos. And all the articles that I just showed the
9 Court, those are all peer reviewed and published in the
10 literature. Correct?

11 A. That's correct. Yes.

12 Q. Besides that, you've also published other things
13 concerning asbestos. Is this one also -- this one is
14 also related to the CARET study; correct?

15 A. It is. This is looking at lung function changes
16 over time in asbestos-exposed workers and what would
17 predict loss of lung function.

18 Q. Now, besides the CARET study, have you also, in
19 your personal practice, seen people that suffer from
20 asbestos-related diseases working in the Washington state
21 area?

22 A. Yes. As I have said, since my fellowship
23 beginning in 1989 I've seen asbestos-exposed workers.
24 And in clinic or in surveillance programs or in the CARET
25 study, I've seen thousands of asbestos-exposed workers

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1 over the last 20 years. And that's certainly gone on
2 throughout my practice, both when I had an academic
3 practice at the University of Washington as well as in
4 private practice since 2003, although my practice now is
5 mostly a consulting practice.

6 Q. Now you've also -- I have a textbook. And I
7 didn't bring it, because it's pretty big. It's about
8 this thick. Are you an editor of the Textbook of
9 Clinical, Occupational and Environmental Medicine?

10 A. Yes. I was one of the co-editors of the second
11 edition of that textbook.

12 Q. Now, besides that, you mentioned briefly that
13 you've worked at the University of Washington. What have
14 you done teaching in the past?

15 A. Yes. I was a full-time faculty member for about
16 ten years after completing my fellowship, and I continue
17 to serve as an adjunct clinical associate professor. But
18 in those ten years I was at the university, I was
19 variously at different times residency director, clinic
20 director and course director for their clinical
21 Occupational Medicine course.

22 Q. And have you also -- other than your peer reviewed
23 articles and your editing of the textbook, have you
24 been asked at times to be on committees such as the
25 American Thoracic Society?

Direct - Brodtkin

1 A. Yes. I certainly have been on a number of
2 committees. In the early 2000s I was asked by the
3 American Thoracic Society to participate in a committee
4 that would advise pulmonary physicians, as well as
5 physicians in internal medicine and other specialties,
6 about the criteria necessary to diagnose asbestosis, the
7 scarring disease related to asbestos, as well as pleura
8 plaques. I'm not a lung specialist but was asked because
9 I was an Occupational Medicine physician experienced with
10 asbestos to participate on that committee.

11 Q. So even though the American Thoracic Society is a
12 society for lung specialists, your specialty is
13 Occupational Medicine, and you were still asked to be on
14 this committee that came up with the criteria of how to
15 diagnose asbestosis in individuals?

16 A. That's correct. And this became the consensus
17 document for the American Thoracic Society on how to
18 diagnose asbestosis.

19 Q. And there was a number of folks that were on that
20 committee?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. Now, the other thing about this is that these
23 consensus documents -- the Court's heard a little bit
24 about consensus documents. Based on your experience
25 being involved in the ATS consensus document, how does

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1 that process work?

2 A. The process works, typically, by selecting a
3 committee of experienced physicians and scientists in an
4 area to develop the criteria to provide evidence of
5 scientific and medical reliability and validity to
6 produce a document that synthesizes that review and then
7 to present it to the broader organization for review to
8 see if there is consensus. If there's not, one may have
9 to go through an iterative process. But in this case,
10 certainly, our document went through the broader
11 committees of the American Thoracic Society before it was
12 adopted as a consensus document.

13 Q. Now I didn't ask you, but have you had any
14 involvement with the American College of Occupational and
15 Environmental Medicine?

16 A. Well, I did speak to that a little earlier that
17 I've been a fellow with the American College of
18 Occupational and Environmental Medicine and do serve on
19 the Lung Disorders Committee and have for a number of
20 years.

21 Q. What's the Lung Disorders Committee?

22 A. The Lung Disorders Committee is the committee of
23 the American College that really advises their board of
24 directors on issues relating to pulmonary disease in
25 occupational settings and positions that might be taken

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1 based on evidence, scientific evidence, or developments
2 in the field.

3 Q. Your Honor, we would offer Dr. Brodkin as a expert
4 in the area of Environmental Medicine.

5 M. SCHACHTER: No objection.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 MR. FROST: And occupational.

8 THE COURT: And occupational?

9 M. SCHACHTER: No objection to that either.

10 THE COURT: He will be accepted.

11 BY MR. FROST:

12 Q. Okay. Dr. Brodkin, how much do you get paid an
13 hour?

14 A. I'm getting paid \$550 an hour, which is my 2012
15 rate when I was retained in this case.

16 Q. Now how many hours have you spent on this case, I
17 guess, prior to your deposition?

18 A. Over 100 hours.

19 Q. And that hundred hours would be billed at your
20 normal rate, I guess?

21 A. All of my activities in this case and other
22 evaluations I do are billed at an hourly rate.

23 Q. Okay. Now, we want to talk about -- we talked
24 with Mr. Templin a little bit and about state of the art
25 and asbestos and gaskets and packing in particular. Is

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1 that an area that you have reviewed the literature on?

2 A. It is. It's certainly a common exposure in
3 Occupational Medicine, and I have.

4 Q. And as an Occupational Medicine doctor, this is
5 something you need to review in order to have an
6 understanding of not only the work practices but what was
7 known and knowable about these type of products over the
8 years?

9 A. Certainly one has to be aware of the literature in
10 terms of understanding both exposure, because
11 Occupational Medicine is an assessment of exposure-
12 related illness. So the literature regarding exposure,
13 as well as the literature regarding health effects.
14 Through my review of that literature and studying it, I
15 am aware of how medical knowledge did evolve over time.

16 Q. And the first document I have is Merewether and
17 Price from 1930. Are you familiar with that particular
18 document?

19 A. I am. Yes. Certainly, we were taught about this
20 when I was a fellow.

21 Q. So this is something you were actually taught in
22 school?

23 A. Within the first couple of weeks of fellowship in
24 1989 when I started Occupational Medicine, this is one of
25 the seminal papers in all of Occupational Medicine.

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1 Q. This Merewether and Price paper. Mr. Templin
2 talked about the fact it was in two parts. He and I
3 talked about one section, but I want to talk to you about
4 other areas. Was Merewether and Price just focused on
5 asbestos, Chrysotile asbestos, textiles in England? Or
6 were there other issues being discussed concerning
7 asbestos products?

8 A. The initial study was an investigation of textile
9 workers who were Chrysotile-exposed. Merewether and
10 Price identified about a quarter of those workers that
11 had asbestosis. And based on the realization that there
12 was prevalent disease among asbestos-exposed workers,
13 they made recommendations for other workers in other
14 areas. That's part two of their document where they make
15 those recommendations.

16 Q. And did they talk about any end products that were
17 not asbestos textiles?

18 A. They reviewed a number of different products,
19 including insulation products, cementitious products like
20 asbestos cement, friction products, jointings and
21 packings, which was an older name for a gasket-like
22 material. These were all areas that they studied.

23 Q. And in the 1932 -- this is what I talked with
24 Mr. Templin about briefly. In 1932 did they continue to
25 talk about packings and jointings?

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1 A. They did, although they had broader
2 recommendations in 1932. 1930 was strictly focused on
3 workers fabricating or manufacturing materials. In 1932
4 they focused not only on that group of workers but on
5 industrial processes. So that really refers to workers
6 that would be using the materials in industrial
7 processes, including end users.

8 Q. And so after 1932, did the knowledge or at least
9 understanding that individuals could get asbestosis from
10 jointings and things like that continue on?

11 A. It did. And certainly it was recognized that
12 activities disrupting the material, specifically sawing,
13 grinding and turning of a packing and joining material
14 and other material could result in exposure that puts
15 workers at risk for asbestosis.

16 Q. And I put up there, again, another article from
17 1935. That was, again, from the Merewether and Price;
18 correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Then in the same time period of 1935, were there
21 other documents from the United States, particularly the
22 Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry where they
23 also talked about asbestos and concerns for end products?

24 A. In 1935, Campbell essentially replicated the
25 Merewether and Price study in textile workers in the

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1 United States and found a very similar prevalence, about
2 a quarter of workers in the textile trades with evidence
3 of asbestosis. And very much like Merewether and Price,
4 the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
5 document in 1935 made specific recommendations for
6 different types of materials which certainly included a
7 rope and wick-type materials, packing-type materials that
8 can contain up to 90 percent asbestos. It would also
9 include friction products, insulation, cementitious
10 materials very much like Merewether and Price.

11 Q. So, again, we're talking about not only the people
12 manufacturing products but concern for end products?

13 A. That's true. Yes.

14 Q. Then I have a document entitled Occupational
15 Tumors and Allied Diseases. Now this isn't just a paper,
16 Dr. Brodtkin, this is actually a big old book. I mean,
17 that's what I'd call it. It's about two or three inches
18 thick. And it's a book published by Dr. Hueper who we
19 talked with Mr. Templin about in some of the internal
20 Garlock documents.

21 A. Yes. Occupational Tumors is a text. It's over
22 500 pages long. And Dr. Hueper was probably the
23 preeminent occupational pathologist of the time.

24 Q. And that was published in 1942.

25 A. That's correct. Yes.

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1 Q. Now, this idea, this concern, about asbestos
2 causing cancer, in particular lung cancer. Was that
3 something Dr. Hueper talked about in that particular
4 book?

5 A. It is. Certainly, there was knowledge from the
6 1930s that asbestos-exposed workers were at increased
7 risk for lung cancer. So Dr. Hueper not only addresses
8 asbestosis, which Merewether and Price did, but also the
9 concern for lung cancer in terms of a range of asbestos
10 products.

11 Q. And what types of products was Dr. Hueper talking
12 about as potentials for exposure?

13 A. It would be probably a broader range than
14 Merewether and Price but certainly would include the same
15 major categories of asbestos cement, insulation, friction
16 products, gaskets and packing, as well as other board
17 materials, plaster boards and related jointing materials.

18 Q. And then in 1943 the Illinois Labor Bulletin. Was
19 there publications concerning gaskets as being a concern
20 during that time period?

21 A. Yes. The Labor Board emphasized gaskets as one of
22 the principal asbestos-containing products with the need
23 to apply wet methods and dust suppression, the same
24 techniques that were talked about this morning.

25 Q. And, sir, Richard Doll, did he, in 1955, publish

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1 an article concerning asbestos?

2 A. Yes. Richard Doll looked at the textile workers
3 again. This time not in terms of asbestosis, the
4 scarring disease, but in terms of lung cancer, and found
5 that the textile workers were at tenfold increased risk
6 for developing lung cancer, highly statistically
7 significant. And he really definitively established the
8 association between asbestos in the textile industry,
9 Chrysotile asbestos, and development of lung cancer.

10 Q. And that was all Chrysotile that Dr. Doll was
11 dealing with?

12 A. Yes. It was the textile industry, which was
13 Chrysotile.

14 Q. Okay. And then in 1958, did the AIHA -- we've
15 heard a lot about the AIHA. They published things over
16 the years, the AIHA, correct?

17 A. They certainly publish recommendations in terms of
18 exposure and worker protection.

19 Q. And this Industrial Hygiene Organization, did they
20 talk about gaskets and packings being a source of
21 asbestos exposure?

22 A. Yes. Among other materials, the same types of
23 materials we've talked about, and the concern for
24 asbestosis and lung cancer.

25 Q. Okay. And then Dr. Wagner in 1960. How is that

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1 relevant to understanding asbestos and asbestos cancers?

2 A. Certainly Wagner added knowledge regarding
3 Mesothelioma and concern for Mesothelioma and asbestos
4 developed in the late 1940s. Cases were observed in the
5 Canadian Chrysotile mines; two cases reported in 1952.
6 And Wagner followed up with a much larger study in the
7 northwest cape of South Africa identifying over 30 cases
8 of Mesothelioma among crocidolite miners, blue asbestos
9 miners, in the Cape and, again, added significantly to
10 the knowledge, really establishing definitively that
11 asbestos was a cause of Mesothelioma.

12 Q. So even prior to Dr. Wagner, there were reports of
13 Chrysotile workers, or Chrysotile miners, getting
14 Mesotheliomas in the literature?

15 A. Yes. Cartier published that in 1952. Two of the
16 Quebec miners and millers were Chrysotile-exposed.

17 Q. You and I haven't focused much on it because we've
18 been focusing in on gaskets and packing. But all along
19 this timeline from even before 1930 in Merewether and
20 Price, there are other articles that deal with what was
21 known and knowable about asbestos and whether it causes
22 asbestosis, lung cancer and Mesothelioma that you and I
23 aren't talking about. Correct?

24 A. Oh, certainly. I mean, through the decades there
25 are hundreds. And if you go to the current time, there's

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1 thousands of articles that address the growing medical
2 knowledge regarding asbestos-related disease and refining
3 that knowledge.

4 Q. And so you and I are focusing mostly on gaskets
5 and packing and what was known about those, except for
6 the Doll case or the Doll paper and the Wagner paper.
7 Correct?

8 A. Yes. Those would be other areas.

9 Q. Okay. And then Dr. Hueper. In 1964, did he
10 publish at the Selikoff conference and give a
11 presentation about the different types of products that
12 had potential for asbestos disease?

13 A. Yes. That was discussed in the 1964 Selikoff
14 conference. It was published in 1965. But Hueper
15 re-emphasized the concern for asbestos-related products,
16 among which included gaskets and packing and other
17 materials such as insulation, friction products, asbestos
18 cement and other materials. But, this time not just in
19 terms of asbestosis and lung cancer but also
20 Mesothelioma.

21 Q. Would it be fair to characterize that 1964
22 conference as only being about either crocidolite or just
23 about insulators?

24 A. Not at all. The 1964 conference was really
25 organized by Selikoff to synthesize the knowledge of

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1 asbestos at that time, given the growing volume of
2 research. And it really related to asbestos broadly in
3 terms of all of the major commercial fibers and a broad
4 range of materials.

5 Q. Now, Dr. Brodkin, I want to talk to you about your
6 methodology at this case, and particularly in dealing
7 with the questions of whether Chrysotile asbestos causes
8 Mesothelioma and whether Chrysotile asbestos in gaskets
9 or packing caused Mesothelioma. Okay?

10 A. Certainly.

11 Q. And I have methodology. Have you gone through a
12 methodology in trying to answer those particular
13 questions as an Occupational Medicine doctor?

14 A. Yes. There are three major methods that I use in
15 my practice and that physicians in Occupational and
16 Environmental Medicine would typically use in addressing
17 the question of causation, whether a material like
18 asbestos or Chrysotile in particular caused a disease
19 like Mesothelioma. And those three methodologies, which
20 are not mutually exclusive -- in fact, I would call them
21 complimentary -- would include the occupational and
22 environmental history, which is a practice fairly unique
23 to our field in terms of taking a comprehensive
24 occupational history. Secondly, the Helsinki Consensus
25 criteria which establishes how or what criteria are

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1 necessary to establish an asbestos-related disease. And
2 thirdly, the Bradford-Hill criteria for causation, some
3 of which was talked about earlier.

4 Q. And I guess my spell check didn't work very well.
5 The environmental history and occupational history, is
6 that something that's important?

7 A. It is. It's really integral to my field of
8 occupational medicine. One can't evaluate it unless
9 one's gone through a comprehensive occupational history.

10 Q. In regards to gaskets and packing exposures, say
11 in people who are pipefitters or people who are
12 machinist's mates on board ships or any job where they
13 would do gasket-type work. Have you looked at that and
14 seen those type of occupational histories in the past?

15 A. I have. As I said, I've interviewed hundreds and
16 hundreds of workers over the years that have participated
17 in those activities, particularly in shipyard settings,
18 but also land-based settings.

19 Q. And this methodology that you and I are going to
20 discuss, has this been something that's been published in
21 books like your own?

22 A. Yes. Certainly, the process of identifying risk
23 hazards and exposures through the occupational history is
24 a methodology that's integral to the field of
25 Occupational Medicine. We Certainly published it in our

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1 textbook. That section was published by Dr. Cullen and
2 Dr. Rosenstock, leaders in the field, on how one
3 identifies exposures. So, that really underlies the
4 occupational history. And to identify an exposure, one
5 needs, in terms of asbestos, a documented source of
6 asbestos and then an activity disrupting that source.

7 Q. So this methodology that you and I are going to
8 use has been published in textbooks which are the types
9 of books that deal with Occupational Medicine and are
10 generally accepted in that field?

11 A. Certainly. Including our own.

12 Q. Okay. Now we were talking about occupational
13 history. What as an Occupational Medicine doctor and,
14 using this methodology that's been used and published,
15 what are you looking for when you're looking at an
16 occupational history?

17 A. My process and the process of physicians in my
18 field is to identify exposures that place individuals at
19 risk for disease. And as I indicated, one starts with
20 the source. There has to be a documented source of
21 asbestos-containing material. That isn't sufficient --
22 just asbestos and a source isn't going to create
23 exposure. There has to be an activity that disrupts that
24 source that generates airborne fibers that can become
25 respirable or breathable. And to do that, there has to

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1 be a sufficient concentration to overcome the body's
2 defenses.

3 The body has defenses to cough particles that are
4 inhaled, or to produce mucus that removes particles or
5 fibers. So, concentrations have to be sufficient to
6 overcome that to enter the respiratory tract, that's
7 called bio-availability, and then enter the tissues and
8 add to the body's burden of asbestos.

9 Q. Now, this -- you weren't here for this but
10 Dr. Longo and others have done gasket fabrication studies
11 and numbers. I showed these to you this morning;
12 correct?

13 A. Yes, that's correct.

14 Q. And there's power wire brushing. These are
15 Dr. Longo's numbers again. Are you familiar with these
16 type of numbers?

17 A. Certainly. I've read Dr. Longo's reports and
18 others, such as Dr. Millette and other reports, regarding
19 ranges of exposure and, certainly, these ranges are
20 within the ranges I've seen.

21 Q. When we talk about ranges of exposure. Even if we
22 took -- if we set aside Dr. Longo's reports and we set
23 aside Dr. Boelter's reports, are there publications in
24 the peer reviewed literature that talk about gasket
25 exposures that, as an Occupational Medicine doctor, you

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1 can look at and decide whether there's the availability
2 for people to be exposed to asbestos-containing gaskets
3 doing the typical work practices of changing a gasket,
4 grinding, and those type of things?

5 A. Yes. These studies are essential because they
6 really describe the airborne exposures when that activity
7 is performed. So that relates to the occupational
8 history. If a worker is hand grinding a gasket, that
9 generates a certain airborne exposure. If they're power
10 wire brushing a gasket, it's going to generate a higher
11 exposure. So it's really these studies that inform me
12 about the airborne exposures.

13 Q. And these studies that inform you, it's a wide
14 range of sources that you've looked at. I mean, it's not
15 just one or two data points?

16 A. That's true. I don't think one can just pick out
17 a study and say this is Exposure X. One's talking about
18 a range of exposures from relatively lower exposures to
19 relatively higher exposures, and one wants to look at the
20 whole range.

21 Q. Now you talked about -- so we talked about source,
22 and that would be -- you've got to put asbestos in the
23 gasket or packing; is that correct?

24 A. Yes. Typically, during historic periods in hot
25 applications or high pressure applications, those would

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1 be asbestos-containing gaskets.

2 Q. And in the past, have you seen cases involving
3 Garlock gaskets?

4 A. I have in the past. Yes.

5 Q. And those generally had a high level of asbestos
6 content in them?

7 A. If they were for hot applications during those
8 historic times, yes.

9 Q. And what levels of content would those be?

10 A. Typically, in the 70 to 90 percent range. Some
11 may be lower, some may be higher, but typically in that
12 range.

13 Q. Now, what type of activities are you looking for
14 as an -- as an Occupational Medicine doctor who deals
15 with this issue of whether individuals are at an
16 increased risk for diseases like Mesothelioma?

17 A. Exposure to gaskets from the occupational history
18 really relate to activities that would disrupt the fibers
19 from the encapsulation, and that would be activities
20 ranging from hand activities with scraping during
21 installation with ball peen hammering, scissor cutting,
22 to fabricate gaskets. And then during removal, either
23 hand scraping or wire brushing, or then at higher levels
24 power brushing, either with pneumatics or other power
25 tools.

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1 Q. And in fact, when a gasket is just sitting there
2 in place, or maybe just -- we had one here, even though
3 we have to have it, you know, in a special bag. If it's
4 just sitting there and not being manipulated, is that a
5 problem?

6 A. I would not identify that as an exposure gasket.
7 A gasket in the form of a pre-formed gasket? There's no
8 activity there generating airborne fibers.

9 Q. And so what has to happen for it to be
10 bio-available?

11 A. That material has to be disrupted. Either during
12 installation -- if it has to be fit, cut, it certainly
13 could release fibers. Or if it's removed or degraded,
14 that disrupts the material and generates very significant
15 airborne fiber levels.

16 Q. And I know you haven't been here, but there's been
17 a lot of discussion of Dr. Selikoff and that 1978
18 statements. Is there some distinction there that they
19 also draw?

20 A. Well, I noted this morning there was discussion of
21 the Harries table where it's indicated that the form of
22 the gasket used in shipyards is not considered hazardous,
23 and I think that really gets to the source. Just the
24 source sitting there is not an exposure per se, but the
25 Selikoff chapter really emphasizes activities not

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1 specific to gaskets but to all materials that if there
2 are activities disrupting an asbestos-containing
3 material, that results in an exposure of concern to
4 workers. So it really distinguishes the form from the
5 manner in which it's used or the activity, and that's an
6 important distinction.

7 Q. And we've talked a lot about exposures of that
8 background. Would you -- do you have an opinion whether
9 individuals that are doing this type of work, whether
10 they're punching out a gasket, whether they're grinding
11 it with a hand wire brush or they're taking an electric
12 grinder, would those type of work activities expose
13 individuals to asbestos if it's in that gasket above
14 ambient or background levels?

15 A. Well I would probably use the term "ambient."
16 Because "background" in Occupational Medicine can also
17 mean bystanders. If the worker next door is doing it,
18 that can be a background exposure. So I would
19 distinguish that from ambient, which is in the general
20 air we breathe. These are exposures that I would
21 characterize as much higher -- high level compared to low
22 ambient levels. In fact, they would be in the range of
23 60,000 to 30 million times higher than ambient levels
24 that have been reported.

25 Q. And that's not just using Dr. Longo's numbers;

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1 that's using your comprehensive review of the scientific
2 literature?

3 A. That's true. Yes.

4 Q. Now, you talked about the body burden. Can you
5 explain what you mean by that?

6 A. "Body burden" is the concentration of the
7 toxicant, in this case asbestos, within the tissues. And
8 in the case of asbestos, these would be fibers that were
9 inhaled, that overcame the body's defenses and then
10 entered the lung and, as was discussed by Dr. Brody, can
11 then translocate to the pleura membranes and other areas
12 of the body.

13 Q. And how does dose-response play into all of this?

14 A. Dose-response is an important part of the
15 information derived from the occupational history because
16 a disease like Mesothelioma is a dose-response disease.
17 The greater the dose, the greater the risk for disease.
18 So we've talked about the levels, the ranges related to
19 work with gaskets and packing that can be, you know, less
20 than a fiber per cc up to the tens of fibers per cc.

21 If one compares that to the dose necessary to
22 develop Mesothelioma, and a number of important studies
23 that are cited on this slide from large Mesothelioma
24 registries indicate that that's in the range of about .07
25 fibers per cc to .99 fibers per cc. At that dose range,

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1 cumulative dose range, there's a three to eight fold
2 increased risk for Mesothelioma, highly statistically
3 significant. So if an individual from the occupational
4 history is performing activities in the one to tens of
5 fiber per cc range on a career basis, certainly they're
6 going to be well above the range established for the
7 dose-response for Mesothelioma.

8 Q. Now, what are these registry studies? What are we
9 looking at?

10 A. We're looking at the French and German registries.
11 Both have over 400 Mesothelioma cases. Both did a very
12 comprehensive job, exposure matrix and reconstruction of
13 the dose of individuals that became registered and are
14 designed to look at Mesothelioma risk and a wide range of
15 exposures from the fiber per cc to less than fiber per cc
16 range.

17 Q. Are these registry studies, are they able to tease
18 out whether an individual was only exposed to Chrysotile
19 or whether they were exposed to some amosite or they were
20 exposed to both fibers?

21 A. No. These are, essentially, national registries.
22 And there are individuals that certainly would have been
23 exposed to all fiber types in those registries. So, they
24 don't -- they're not designed to uniquely look at a
25 specific fiber type.

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1 Q. And in that type of study, could you actually
2 design a registry study that could do that?

3 A. You couldn't. And in the real world we're not
4 talking about a Chrysotile world, an amosite world and a
5 crocidolite world. These are fibers that were
6 commercially used. While Chrysotile was the predominant
7 fiber, with about 95 percent use in North America and
8 Europe, there were certainly Amphiboles used as well. So
9 when you're looking at Mesothelioma cases on a national
10 basis, you can't separate out the individual fiber types.

11 Q. Now we talked about the Helsinki criteria as being
12 one of the things that you use or one of the
13 methodologies that you use to come to your conclusions.
14 What is this Helsinki criteria?

15 A. The Helsinki criteria is a consensus report. It
16 was published in 1997. The meeting took place in
17 Helsinki but it involved an international group of
18 imminent researchers in asbestos-related disease in my
19 field of Occupational Medicine, as well as pulmonary
20 medicine and pathology, that developed criteria that, by
21 consensus, were felt to be necessary to diagnose
22 asbestos-related diseases which would include asbestosis,
23 the scarring disease, lung cancer; pleura plaques,
24 scarring in the lining of the lung; as well as
25 Mesothelioma.

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1 Q. And we have a few cutouts. But what they did was
2 they had 19 different individuals from countries who were
3 not producing asbestos and they all gathered and had
4 collectively done over 1,000 articles on asbestos. So
5 these aren't folks that aren't aware of the world's
6 literature; correct?

7 A. These participants were selected for their
8 experience with asbestos-related disease. And certainly,
9 all of them had made important contributions.

10 Q. And this Helsinki criteria or consensus document,
11 do they talk about attribution for Mesothelioma and other
12 asbestos-related disease, how you do that?

13 A. Yes. They talk about the criteria necessary to
14 attribute a case of Mesothelioma to asbestos and what's
15 necessary.

16 Q. All right. And I have up there, "A history of
17 significant occupational domestic or environmental
18 exposure to asbestos will suffice." Did they talk about
19 what they meant by a history of significant occupational
20 exposure?

21 A. This really gets to the first method I used, the
22 occupational and environmental history. You have to take
23 a history and get that exposure information, and that's
24 essential to the diagnosis. They're really speaking to
25 that process.

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1 Q. And did they talk about how much history you need
2 to attribute a Mesothelioma to asbestos?

3 A. Well, given the dose-response from Mesothelioma,
4 they indicated that even at the lower levels, brief or
5 low level exposures should be considered sufficient to
6 attribute a Mesothelioma to an occupational setting.

7 Q. Now you would agree with me, doctor, that at that
8 time this question about whether Chrysotile asbestos
9 causes Mesothelioma had been discussed in the world's
10 literature; correct?

11 A. Oh, certainly for many years.

12 Q. And would it be safe to assume that 19 individuals
13 who's written over 1,000 articles on asbestos, they would
14 have an understanding of that debate?

15 A. Certainly. And certainly fiber types are
16 discussed within that document.

17 Q. And even though it discussed fiber types, they
18 still say in this consensus document that occupational
19 history of brief or low level exposure should be
20 considered sufficient for Mesothelioma to be designated
21 as occupationally related. Is that something you agree
22 with?

23 A. It is. And specifically, there's no discussion of
24 fiber type here. It's really asbestos from the
25 occupational history. I do agree with that. I certainly

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1 use the Helsinki criteria to diagnose asbestos-related
2 disease.

3 Q. And they don't say in the document that massive
4 exposure to Amphiboles or massive exposure to Chrysotile
5 is required. It just says brief or low levels.

6 A. That's correct. Yes.

7 Q. Now, are you aware of other scientific agencies
8 that have dealt with this brief or low level exposures to
9 asbestos?

10 A. Certainly. Yes.

11 Q. Is there a consensus view in the world literature
12 whether low levels of exposure to asbestos, no matter
13 what the fiber type is -- has there become a consensus
14 view on that issue, whether it causes Mesothelioma or
15 not?

16 A. There certainly is. I mean, it's recognized that
17 Mesothelioma is a dose-response disease. The greater the
18 dose, the greater the risk. But there is a broad dose
19 response for Mesothelioma that includes low level
20 exposures. So, certainly that's been recognized by all
21 the major governmental agencies that address public
22 health, including NIOSH and OSHA, and the International
23 Agency for Research on Cancer, ATSDR, EPA. None of them
24 really distinguish between a necessary high dose versus
25 any other dose or a fiber type.

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1 Q. And we talked with Mr. Templin about the fact
2 that at the Selikoff conference they talked about there
3 not being a threshold. Is that what we're talking about
4 here, that there's no threshold for Mesothelioma in
5 relation to asbestos exposure?

6 A. The scientific literature has not identified a
7 specific threshold below which we can say an individual
8 is safe; they will not develop Mesothelioma above which
9 they are at risk. The French and German registries,
10 which I spoke to, give specific doses at which we know
11 there's increased risk, but they're not able to give a
12 specific threshold dose.

13 Q. Now, this no threshold that there is no risk below
14 which. That's where we sit today, even though there's
15 been, I don't know, thousands of articles written on
16 asbestos. Correct?

17 A. That's the status of the science today that we
18 know certain doses where there are increased risk. I
19 spoke to the .07 to .99 fiber per cc. We know with those
20 doses there is increased risk, but we don't know that
21 there is a threshold. It's possible there is one, but
22 the studies to date haven't identified one.

23 Q. And Dr. Brodkin, as an Occupational Medicine
24 doctor, are you aware of any substance that has been
25 studied throughout the world's literature from the 1930s

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1 on more than asbestos?

2 A. Well, speaking from an Occupational Medicine
3 perspective, I would say that there probably isn't a
4 substance that's been studied in more broadly and more in
5 depth than asbestos. Certainly there are others that
6 have been studied extensively, but asbestos has been
7 researched for many decades now.

8 Q. Now we were talking about the Helsinki criteria.
9 Other than the Helsinki criteria, you also referred to
10 the Sir Bradford-Hill criteria which, I think, Dr. Brody
11 talked about briefly. Is that something you're familiar
12 with?

13 A. Yes. I didn't finish my answer on Helsinki,
14 though, in terms of the criteria necessary to diagnose.
15 I don't know if you want to go over that.

16 Q. Well, let me just -- in the context of this
17 particular case, have you seen individuals who've worked
18 with gaskets and packing that get Mesothelioma that meet
19 those Helsinki criteria?

20 A. Yes. Because they have a defined occupational
21 exposure with an activity-generating airborne fibers.
22 But in addition, there has to be pathologic evidence.
23 They have to have a biopsy that proves they have
24 Mesothelioma. They have to have sufficient latency of at
25 least ten years, often more, to develop the disease. And

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1 one needs to go through a differential diagnostic process
2 and make sure there are no other rare risk factors for
3 Mesothelioma. But after one has gone through each of
4 those steps of the Helsinki criteria, one can then
5 establish an asbestos-related Mesothelioma.

6 Q. Okay. Now, the Sir Bradford-Hill, that's the next
7 part of your methodology in looking at this particular
8 issue of Chrysotile asbestos and then gaskets and
9 packing; correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And I have up there the article -- I guess it was
12 a speech given in 1965. And basically, he outlines
13 different things that you need to look at. Can you
14 explain to us what is the relevance of the Sir
15 Bradford-Hill criteria and how you apply that in this
16 issue of Chrysotile asbestos?

17 A. Yes. It's one of the important methodologies of
18 causation. It's been discussed earlier today, as well.
19 But this really speaks to the body of scientific evidence
20 that's necessary to establish causation, and that gathers
21 evidence from a number of areas. The first would be
22 epidemiology in terms of characterizing a strength of
23 association, as well as looking at consistency of the
24 data and the studies and understanding dose-response.
25 But it also considers latency, which I talked about

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1 earlier. The temporal association between exposure and
2 disease has to fit in terms of a recognized pattern.
3 There has to be plausibility, which we talked about,
4 which is really evidence for a biologic mechanism. There
5 has to be experimental evidence, and certainly
6 Dr. Brody has addressed that.

7 In addition, with asbestos, there are issues of
8 specificity because asbestos is so specific in its
9 association with Mesothelioma as well as coherence and
10 analogy. Those aspects of evidence should be considered
11 before determining whether an association is causal.

12 Q. And when we're talking about this association
13 versus causal. Even though we have, I guess it's nine
14 criteria that Dr. Hill talked about, is any one of those
15 nine criteria, based on what he discussed, somehow
16 heavily weighted one way versus the other?

17 A. I would say not. Sir Bradford-Hill indicated
18 there really is not one single piece of the puzzle that
19 tells you about causation. There's a body of evidence
20 that collectively should inform you about causation and
21 allow you to make that judgment. Certainly epidemiology
22 is an important aspect, but toxicology, in terms of
23 animal and biologic mechanisms, is extremely important as
24 well.

25 Q. So let's look at the strength of association. You

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1 and I are going to talk about certain articles. But
2 there are other articles on this question of Chrysotile
3 and Chrysotile predominantly exposed cohorts that we
4 don't have listed up there; correct?

5 A. That's true. There are numerous studies that have
6 addressed disease risk in Chrysotile exposed cohorts,
7 probably in the range of 25 or more, but these certainly
8 are important ones that have informed my opinion.

9 Q. Okay. And can you explain to us why these
10 particular studies are important?

11 A. Well, these studies certainly address Chrysotile.
12 They take place in areas where Chrysotile was the
13 predominant exposure in its use with minimal
14 contamination. So it allows one to look at the effect of
15 Chrysotile as a predominant exposure. And in the case of
16 the bottom one, the Vianna and Polan, while not
17 exclusively Chrysotile, some uniquely Chrysotile
18 settings.

19 Q. And so when we're dealing with the strength of
20 association we have the different risks up there. What
21 does that mean and how does that relate to this issue?

22 A. As I'm informed has been discussed with
23 epidemiology. Certainly, one looks at strength of
24 association as disease occurrence in an exposed group
25 compared to an unexposed group. These studies are

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1 designed to look at that. And when one sees a doubling
2 of disease occurrence in the exposed compared to the
3 unexposed, that yields a relative risk ratio of twofold
4 or a hundred percent increase in risk. Now in the case
5 of these studies, the risks increase 400, to over 3,000
6 percent. So, fourfold to 33 fold increase. These are
7 very high magnitudes of association. They're very robust
8 in establishing a very strong association and certainly
9 would indicate that a high majority of cases in these
10 groups would be attributable to asbestos.

11 Q. Now, Dr. Brodtkin, first of all, part of your
12 training in Occupational Medicine involves epidemiology;
13 correct?

14 A. Yes. In the fellowship training for Occupational
15 Medicine, physicians are required to get a master's in
16 Public Health to understand the principles of
17 epidemiology, bio-statistics and, in my field, toxicology
18 and industrial hygiene. So, yes, there is extensive
19 training.

20 Q. And I think I shortchanged you trying to get you
21 on quickly. You do have a master's in Public Health,
22 besides having your degree as a medical physician?

23 A. Yes. I did my fellowship at the University of
24 Washington and concurrently, as is required, obtained my
25 master's in Public Health.

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1 Q. Now when we're looking at these issues, we're only
2 looking at the ones that are 400 to, I think you said,
3 over 3,000 times risk?

4 A. Correct.

5 THE COURT: No. Percent.

6 BY MR. FROST:

7 Q. Percent. I'm sorry.

8 A. Yes. 3,300 percent.

9 Q. Now there are other studies that either show lower
10 risks or show no risk.

11 A. There are. And there are other studies that don't
12 look at risk in the same way. They look at rates of
13 disease. There are numerous studies that do that, and
14 that gives you the rate of disease that you can compare
15 with other populations. It doesn't, within the study,
16 compare it to an unexposed group, but certainly you can
17 use that to look at the disease risk. And there are
18 studies, the South Carolina textile workers, the studies
19 out of Zimbabwe, that generate rates of disease that also
20 show high rates among Chrysotile-exposed workers.

21 Q. And those don't -- basically, they don't calculate
22 a relative risk. They just give rates of disease; is
23 that right?

24 A. True. And the same for Quebec miners and millers.
25 They have a very high rate of Mesothelioma, but those

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1 studies don't generate relative risk metrics.

2 Q. Would it be fair to say that the only place we see
3 individuals at an increased risk of Mesothelioma
4 involving Chrysotile only appears in people who are
5 miners and millers of Chrysotile?

6 A. No, that's not true. Certainly, miners and
7 millers are a group at risk. And those workers in
8 Canada, Zimbabwe, South Africa have certainly been
9 reported on and provide important information. And also
10 the study I've cited in Sverdlovsk, Russia are mining
11 areas.

12 MR. SCHACHTER: Excuse me, Your Honor, I don't
13 believe that study was disclosed in his report. If
14 they're going to talk about it, I would like to get a
15 copy. I object to it if it's not in his report. The
16 Wang article is not in his report, unless I've overlooked
17 it. But if they're talking about new material --

18 THE COURT: If they're not in the report, we'll
19 not talk about them.

20 MR. FROST: To be honest Your Honor, there were a
21 lot of studies in the report. And I'll take his --

22 THE WITNESS: My understanding is they are in the
23 report.

24 MR. SCHACHTER: What reference number are they?
25 Because we tried to get a copy of them. I don't mean to

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1 address the witness.

2 MR. FROST: That's fine. Dr. Brodkin -- grab your
3 list, Dr. Brodkin.

4 THE WITNESS: Excuse me?

5 MR. FROST: Grab your list.

6 THE WITNESS: Wang and Lin is reference 807 in the
7 first report.

8 MR. SCHACHTER: Okay. I was wrong.

9 MR. FROST: I'm sure it won't be the last time.
10 Is there another?

11 MR. SCHACHTER: Yeah. I didn't see the first one.

12 MR. FROST: Is it okay to continue?

13 MR. SCHACHTER: I would like a copy of Becklake.

14 THE COURT: All right. Let's go ahead.

15 THE WITNESS: Yeah. I'll -- on a break or
16 whatever, I can look for that.

17 BY MR. FROST:

18 Q. Okay. Great. So Dr. Brodkin, we're still dealing
19 with the strength of association. Is there anything else
20 -- when we're dealing with that issue on the
21 Bradford-Hill criteria, we're sort of hitting the
22 highlights. Anything else that's important on this issue
23 of Chrysotile asbestos?

24 A. Well I think the other point is that there is also
25 consistency. We're seeing consistent magnitude of risk

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1 that's highly positive among the studies. So, that's the
2 consistency criteria also for the Bradford-Hill criteria.

3 Q. Now the Court's already seen this, I think, a
4 couple of times. But you're aware that some studies --
5 there is some allegation somewhere that there might
6 potentially might have been some Amphiboles that might
7 have been present in small quantities in certain areas.
8 If you look at it one date and one time period, there
9 might have been some crocidolite or something used. Does
10 that invalidate those Chrysotile cohorts?

11 A. In my opinion, not at all. One is looking at
12 Chrysotile as a predominant material which in
13 Occupational Medicine is important because you're looking
14 at the effect of an exposure, which is predominantly
15 Chrysotile. So one goes to areas where predominantly
16 Chrysotile is used.

17 I guess there are two answers to that question.
18 One is a mineralogic question. If you look under a
19 microscope and a mineralogist looks at it, can they find
20 impurities that would include Amphibole? And the answer
21 is, in many of these cohorts, yes. Such as in the
22 Canadian Thetford Mines, you will find up to one percent
23 Tremolite. In others, like Chunking, China, very low
24 levels, within the 001 percent; a very small fraction of
25 one percent in terms of contamination. But, one can find

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1 that mineralogically.

2 From an Occupational Medicine perspective, I don't
3 find that terribly important because I'm really looking
4 at the dominant exposure, and the world isn't pure
5 exposure. I mean whether one is looking at the mineral
6 in the earth or the end product. If one's looking at
7 gaskets and packing, those are predominant Chrysotile
8 exposures but they have contaminants in them, too. In
9 many cases, that doesn't bother me. I mean, I'm looking
10 at a Chrysotile of predominant exposure. I don't make
11 that distinction as an Occupational Medicine physician,
12 although I understand that mineralogists certainly can.

13 Q. And in fact, when we go back to the -- I always
14 get it wrong -- Balangero cohort. Those folks have been
15 studied extensively; correct?

16 A. They have. In Balangero, while they didn't find
17 any Tremolite in the ore itself, they did find a fraction
18 of the a percent of Balangeroite, which is another
19 mineral that has been discussed whether it could cause
20 health effects or not.

21 Q. As we sit here today, are there peer reviewed
22 published articles that say that the Balangeroite, I
23 guess would be the right way to say, it causes
24 Mesothelioma in that cohort?

25 A. Well that question has been raised. That

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1 Balangeroite has been studied by Italian investigators.
2 Favero-Longo, in the Journal of Toxicology and
3 Environmental Health, 2009, published the results of
4 their research. They felt it was unlikely that that
5 would contribute to be Mesothelioma based on its low
6 bio-persistence ability to persist in the tissues. They
7 felt that that was likely not contributing significantly
8 to Mesothelioma. But there are -- it's certainly been an
9 area that's been under investigation.

10 Q. Now, the next area is temporal association. What
11 do we mean by that when we're talking about this
12 Bradford-Hill criteria?

13 A. That really is very similar in the Helsinki
14 criteria to latency. That predictable time between
15 exposure and development of disease and, certainly, among
16 all the different fiber types that latency is very
17 similar. It generally requires at least ten years but,
18 on average, may be in the range of 35 years and can be up
19 to more than seven decades in some cases. And that would
20 be true whether it's Chrysotile or the Amphibole fibers.

21 Q. Is that something you've seen not only in your
22 CARET study but in your practice of individuals, such as
23 pipefitters, machinist's mates, people like that?

24 A. Yes. The mean latency period in the CARET study
25 was 35 years, which is pretty typical of other studies as

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1 well.

2 Q. Now, the next area is dose-response. What are we
3 talking about when we deal with dose-response?

4 A. Dose-response. We've -- in terms of the
5 Bradford-Hill criteria it really indicates there evidence
6 that would increasing dose. There's increasing risk for
7 disease. And we talked about that for asbestos in
8 general. But there's certainly evidence for Chrysotile
9 as well as a specific mineral. First of all, there is
10 evidence, as Dr. Brody indicated, that Chrysotile
11 preferentially is able to reach the pleura tissues and
12 concentrate in the pleura issues, which is the target
13 organ for development of Mesothelioma. So that's
14 important evidence.

15 Dose-response at the tissue level -- and certainly
16 a number of studies have looked at lung burden of
17 Chrysotile as well and found a strong correlation.
18 Rogers and Lee found an eightfold increased risk for
19 Mesothelioma with increasing lung burden of Chrysotile.
20 So I think there is significant tissue burden evidence
21 that, with increasing dose of Chrysotile, there's an
22 increasing risk for disease.

23 Q. And dealing with this issue. Dr. Suzuki published
24 on this, whether short fibers translocate from the lungs
25 to the pleura tissue. And what do we mean by

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1 "translocate?"

2 A. Translocation really refers to what Dr. Brody
3 explained is that the kinetics or movement of the mineral
4 fiber within the body. So, the ability for an inhaled
5 fiber to get from the lung out to the pleura via the
6 lymphatic channels.

7 Q. Now we heard a lot of discussion from the defense
8 experts about, well, amosite collects in the lung tissue.
9 Amosite? Look in the lung tissue. Look in the lung
10 tissue. Why is that important to look in that lung
11 tissue when we're dealing with the issue of causation of
12 Mesothelioma?

13 A. Well, certainly, it can be useful to look in the
14 lung tissue. And for Amphiboles, that's a fairly simple
15 way to look for it because it's very persistent in the
16 lung tissue. In the case of Chrysotile, it's not a
17 sensitive way. The half-life for Chrysotile in the lung
18 is about three months. If you look a year later, most of
19 the Chrysotile will have broken up and translocated and
20 moved to other areas of the body.

21 So, looking at lung tissue is not going to give
22 you a sensitive metric for distant exposures to
23 Chrysotile in the same way that looking at pleura
24 concentrations would. Lung burdens are used because they
25 can be done in laboratories and are available, but they

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1 don't reflect old Chrysotile exposure very sensitively.

2 Q. And in fact, if I have an individual who was
3 exposed to Chrysotile, say, 30 years ago, would we expect
4 to see that -- those Chrysotile fibers in their lung if
5 we looked at their lung using fiber tissue digestion?

6 A. In most cases, you will not see the Chrysotile
7 after that length of time. The kinetics of Chrysotile
8 again such that it will not persist in the lung for those
9 periods.

10 Q. Have there been studies that have looked in the
11 other places? Because the asbestos has got to go
12 somewhere; right?

13 A. Well, certainly, it is a property of Chrysotile to
14 translocate to other tissues.

15 Q. And have there been studies looking at how it gets
16 from the lung to the other parts of the body?

17 A. Yes. Pathologists have looked at tissue
18 concentrations. I mean, we've talked at one in the
19 pleura tissue. But Dodson and Hammar and other
20 investigators have looked at other serosal membranes,
21 pleura-like membranes, in the abdomen, distant from the
22 lung, and certainly one can find Chrysotile there. But
23 in the pleura, Suzuki identified about the 30-fold
24 increased risk -- 30-fold increased concentration of the
25 Chrysotile compared to the Amphibole fibers.

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1 Q. So what Dr. Suzuki found is that short fiber
2 Chrysotile preferentially clears to the pleura the site
3 of the Mesothelioma tumor.

4 A. Yes. Relative to Amphibole fibers, that's true.

5 Q. Now, we've talked primarily in this trial about
6 pleural Mesothelioma. But are there other forms of
7 Mesothelioma?

8 A. Yes. Any of the serosal membranes can develop
9 Mesothelioma. So that thin cellophane-like membrane,
10 which is the same as the pleura lining but in the
11 abdominal cavity, can be the area of Mesothelioma.
12 That's called a peritoneal Mesothelioma. The serosal
13 membrane surrounding the testicle, the tunica vaginalis,
14 can be a source of Mesothelioma. So those distant sites
15 have been described as well.

16 Q. What about the serosal membrane around the heart?

17 A. It can as well. That's a rarer entity. Usually,
18 pericardial involvement is from direct spread from the
19 pleura into the lining of the heart, that accounts for a
20 great majority of cases. But, at times, you can get a
21 primary pericardial Mesothelioma.

22 Q. And even though there's -- these are in different
23 parts of the body, what's the common thread that we have
24 in causation with those diseases, those Mesotheliomas of
25 the serosal membrane?

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1 A. The common feature is asbestos exposure. And
2 certainly, the Bradford-Hill criteria can be looked at in
3 terms of these other serosal membranes. But as the
4 Helsinki criteria emphasizes, any serosal membrane can be
5 the result of asbestos exposure in terms of Mesothelioma.
6 So that distinction is not made.

7 Q. Now, once asbestos gets into the lung and the
8 Mesothelioma process begins, can you explain to us what
9 we're looking at and how that process develops in a human
10 being?

11 A. This is an autopsy slide of an individual with a
12 right side of Mesothelioma, the right side of the chest,
13 that being on the left side of the slide. This is both
14 lungs. But the normal appearing left lung on the right
15 side of the slide. If you look at the exterior of it,
16 you're not aware of the pleura. It's a very thin
17 cellophane-like membrane. But the right lung on the left
18 side of the slide, you see a very thick white tissue
19 lining around the entire lung. That is spreading within
20 the fissures as well. That's called a tumor rind.
21 That's how Mesothelioma spreads, along the pleura serosal
22 membranes, and that's what you're saying. That thickness
23 of tissue is the tumor of the cancer.

24 Q. So Dr. Brodtkin, I don't want to have you come
25 down. But what we're talking about is the lining of the

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1 lung all the way around here, and then this is the tumor?

2 A. That's correct. Yes.

3 Q. And then what are we seeing here?

4 A. This is a cross-section, various sections of lung.
5 But this really demonstrates the progress or progression
6 of the tumor. It goes from a tissue rind surrounding the
7 entire lung to the formation of thick nodules and
8 eventually the obliteration of the normal lung tissue,
9 and that's how death occurs.

10 Q. And so at the top, what are we seeing there?

11 A. Again, this would be a rind, an encasement, of
12 tumor around the entire lung.

13 Q. So that white area at the top is the beginning of
14 the tumor? The rind?

15 A. And it goes below. It completely encases the
16 lung.

17 Q. And then this is the continuing development. And
18 then this black area, that's the lung?

19 A. That's the lung. But here in this section you're
20 seeing the tumor nodules, those masses, as the tumor
21 becomes thicker.

22 Q. And then at the bottom, what are we seeing there?

23 A. This is an area where the nodules have become so
24 large that they've obliterated the normal lung and you
25 don't see it.

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1 Q. And so, really, what we're left with is what
2 happens at the end state of Mesothelioma?

3 A. One's basically looking at a strangulation of the
4 lung. Death is from respiratory insufficiency.

5 Q. And is that the common end state for Mesothelioma
6 victims?

7 A. For pleural Mesotheliomas, that's true.

8 Q. Now doctor, we've talked about -- we're still
9 talking about applying the Sir Bradford-Hill criteria.
10 We're talking about dose-response. Has there been
11 studies that have dealt with dose-response and
12 Chrysotile?

13 A. There have been. It's harder to do those studies
14 because you have to go in areas where only one fiber type
15 is used. Certainly, the Madkour, in Egypt, looked at a
16 asbestos cement process that used Chrysotile that had 80
17 or so Mesotheliomas and does provide evidence of a dose-
18 response. The median dose of the Mesothelioma cases was
19 seven fiber per cc years, half of the exposures of less
20 than that.

21 Q. What they did is they took a plant that, in their
22 article, they describe as an asbestos manufacturing plant
23 using Chrysotile asbestos, and they looked at individuals
24 who either were working in the plant or live around the
25 plant to see how many Mesothelioma's they had?

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1 A. Correct.

2 Q. And what did they find when they started to look
3 at that issue?

4 A. They found about four Mesothelioma cases among the
5 plant workers. The majority of them -- over 80 of them,
6 I believe, were in the environment around the plant. And
7 certainly, they looked at the occurrence of disease as
8 individuals lived further and further away from the plant
9 to see if there was evidence of dose-response.

10 Q. And so the point in the middle here is where the
11 plant is. And then what they did was they tried to look
12 and point out and find as you went farther and away from
13 the plant whether you had Mesotheliomas?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And these are the results. I don't know if we
16 really need to go through that. But what's the
17 importance of that particular study when we're talking
18 about dose-response?

19 A. Well, certainly, they found a higher occurrence of
20 disease as you got closer to the plant. And that
21 occurrence got less as you went further away, and that's
22 certainly evidence of dose-response. Certainly, the
23 median fiber cc year exposure for the individuals at 75
24 per cc years is within a broad range that's consistent
25 with other studies. It's not exactly the same, but it's

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1 certainly gives more specific information.

2 Q. And have there been other folk that is have had
3 indirect exposure to Chrysotile that show these same
4 types of increased risk for Mesothelioma?

5 A. Yes. In the Balangero mines in Italy, of the 27
6 Mesothelioma cases, two of those were in individuals with
7 what we call indirect exposure. They didn't directly
8 work with the mining material. One laundered the clothes
9 of one of the workers and one collected leaves in the
10 area but didn't work directly with the material. So
11 that's an example of indirect exposure and is evidence
12 that exposure is occurring at lower doses of Chrysotile.

13 And similarly, in Canada, looking at the
14 experience of Mesothelioma in women who did not work at
15 the mines but lived in proximity to the mines. About a
16 sevenfold or 700 percent increased risk in Mesothelioma
17 was identified by Camus.

18 Q. Now we've gone through dose-response. How about
19 consistency? What have we seen in that when we apply the
20 Sir Bradford-Hill?

21 A. Consistency, I spoke to when we talked about the
22 epidemiologic data. All of those studies show a fairly
23 high magnitude of risk, and consistently show an
24 increased magnitude of risk. We're not seeing studies
25 that show reduced risk. They're all in the same

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1 direction.

2 Q. And what about biological mechanism? How do we
3 relate that to this issue?

4 A. Dr. Brody talked about plausibility. And
5 certainly, that body of work informs my opinion as an
6 Occupational Medicine physician that through toxicology
7 each of the fiber types is potent in causing
8 Mesothelioma. So that's another body of evidence I look
9 at that's independent of the epidemiologic evidence.

10 Q. I think that's a good point. We've talked about a
11 lot of government agencies and different studies and
12 things, but is Chrysotile asbestos listed as a known
13 human carcinogen?

14 A. It is. The agency that's charged with doing that
15 the physicians in my field utilize is the International
16 Agency for Research on Cancer, and they've designated
17 asbestos at each of the major commercial fiber types
18 Group 1A, Known Human Carcinogens. So that is each of
19 the fibers is treated in that fashion.

20 Q. Now the other one is animal studies, and
21 Dr. Brody's talked a little bit about that. But have you
22 also reviewed those type of studies?

23 A. Yes. And I think the biologic mechanism and the
24 animal studies are very interrelated.

25 Q. And then the next one is specificity. How does

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1 that -- what have we seen in the world's literature
2 concerning that?

3 A. Well, specificity is a criteria that's a met for
4 each of the fiber types because Mesothelioma is uniquely
5 associated with asbestos exposure. There are very few
6 other causes of Mesothelioma. Rarely, therapeutic
7 radiation will cause it. Rarely, a chronic injury like a
8 recurrent collapse of the lung can be associated with a
9 Mesothelioma. But asbestos is -- well, Mesothelioma we
10 really call a signal tumor for asbestos exposure because
11 there's such a unique relationship. And that's the same
12 for Chrysotile as it is for the Amphiboles.

13 Q. And when we talk about a signal tumor. If an
14 individual goes to their doctor and they've sent off
15 their samples to a pathologist and the pathologist has
16 looked at that and done the immunohistochemistry
17 chemistry and decided that this is in fact a
18 Mesothelioma, what is one of the first questions the
19 doctor asks the patient concerning their past exposures?

20 A. It should trigger an occupational history. Now
21 many physicians outside the field of Occupational
22 Medicine don't take that comprehensive history, but it
23 should trigger the question, was there asbestos exposure?

24 Q. And in fact, have you seen that in medical records
25 in the cases you reviewed and the things you've been

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1 involved with when an individual is diagnosed with
2 Mesothelioma, one of the very first things their doctors
3 asks them how were you exposed to asbestos?

4 A. That's often a discussion that takes place. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. And signal tumor. Besides Mesothelioma
6 being a signal tumor, is asbestosis a signal disease?

7 A. Asbestosis is unique to asbestos. But the process
8 of diagnosing asbestosis, I would say, is distinct from
9 Mesothelioma because there are many other diseases that
10 cause scarring of the lung. So one has to go through a
11 significant differential diagnostic process. So, as a
12 disease state, fibrosis of the lung should really trigger
13 an investigation of all potential types. But that
14 investigation if it has sufficient criteria and will lead
15 to the diagnosis of asbestosis, and that is unique to
16 asbestos.

17 Q. In fact, asbestosis, the term was coined because
18 it was caused by asbestos?

19 A. That's correct. Cook described that in 1927.

20 Q. So even though we had Merewether and Price in the
21 1930s where there were reports of this type, were there
22 reports of this type of disease prior to that?

23 A. Yes. I would say the first characterization of
24 asbestosis as such, independent of other dust-related
25 diseases, would be 1927.

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1 Q. Now we're still talking about the Hill criteria.
2 We're on eight and nine, and we'll put those together.
3 Coherency and analogy. How does that play into this
4 analysis?

5 A. Well I lumped those together in the case of
6 asbestos because one can look at other asbestos-related
7 diseases. Asbestosis pleura plaques, which are scarring
8 in the lining of the lung, lung cancers, each of the
9 fiber types. Chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite, they all
10 cause each of those diseases. In fact, there's not a
11 potency difference in causing those diseases. So by
12 coherence and an analogy, there shouldn't -- there should
13 be a similar behavior in terms of cancers of the pleura,
14 Mesothelioma. And in fact, one sees that because each of
15 the fiber types is potent in causing Mesothelioma. So
16 it's coherent with the other known asbestos-related
17 diseases.

18 Q. And there's been a lot of discussion about all the
19 international agencies and some kind of, I guess,
20 allegation that you really shouldn't look at these
21 because these agencies, they're trying to be
22 overprotective of workers. Is that something that's a
23 valid criticism of IARC and the World Health Organization
24 and the EPA, all these different international
25 organizations? Is that a valid criticism?

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1 A. I don't think it is a valid criticism. And
2 certainly, if one looks at the literature from these
3 agencies one sees a careful review of the scientific and
4 medical literature just as physicians do. Physicians
5 participate in these committees, as well as other
6 scientists, and they look at the broad body of scientific
7 literature before making their recommendations. So I
8 think these are informed decisions based on the science.

9 Now in the case of OSHA, there may be other
10 practical limitations for a regulatory limit that
11 actually may be less protective to workers just because
12 of feasibility of application. But I would not
13 characterize these agencies as being overprotective. I
14 think they want to get it right. I think they want to
15 accurately assess the risk.

16 Q. And so do you look at what these agencies have
17 said and done in review in formulating your opinions?

18 A. These agencies inform me and physicians in my
19 field. I mean, I read the IARC recommendations and,
20 certainly, OSHA, NIOSH, EPA, ATSDR. They inform my
21 opinion as an occupational medical physician. I rely on
22 them and consider them. Yes.

23 Q. And this International Agency for Research on
24 Cancer. They've looked at this issue of Chrysotile. The
25 World Health Organization, they've actually published

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1 pamphlets and books on that and gone through all of the
2 analysis of things we're going to hear on
3 cross-examination and then drawn their conclusions;
4 correct?

5 MR. SCHACHTER: Objection, Your Honor. He can't
6 possibly know what I'll ask on cross-examination.

7 MR. FROST: I'll withdraw that question, but I'm
8 pretty sure I know what he's going to ask.

9 BY MR. FROST:

10 Q. Dr. Brodkin, these agencies, they didn't just
11 publish something on the Internet that says Chrysotile is
12 bad. Have they looked at things, as scientists do, in
13 formulating their opinions?

14 A. Yes. In terms of my reading of these opinions and
15 -- particularly, the International Agency for Research on
16 Cancer, I mean, they are the agency designated with the
17 responsibility of establishing whether a material is
18 carcinogenic. It has huge implications. These are major
19 commercial fibers. They have to go through a very
20 rigorous process. And IARC has published periodically on
21 asbestos over many, many decades and updated their
22 analyses.

23 Q. We're not talking about things that are out of
24 date. I mean, this is ongoing. Research continues and
25 people submit whatever they want to try to change their

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1 mind. That's continued over the years?

2 A. That's true. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. Now when we take that Sir Bradford-Hill
4 criteria. Has there been published articles that do
5 exactly what you and I did where they take the Sir
6 Bradford-Hill criteria and apply it to the Chrysotile
7 asbestos?

8 A. Yes. Others have done that. I mean, here is a
9 commentary by a Richard Lemen going through that process
10 and reached similar conclusions.

11 Q. And he was one of the former directors of NIOSH
12 and an assistant United States Surgeon General?

13 A. Yes, that's my understanding.

14 Q. In fact, Dr. Lemen is a trained epidemiologist?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In fact, Dr. Lemen, was he not NIOSH's
17 epidemiologist during a lot of the asbestos years and as
18 NIOSH was coming up with asbestos regulations?

19 A. My understanding is he was a NIOSH epidemiologist.
20 Yes.

21 Q. And you're aware Dr. Lemen does testify for
22 plaintiffs in asbestos cases?

23 A. I am aware of that. I can't really speak to his
24 testimony but I'm aware of that.

25 Q. Okay. Now, other than the studies you have of

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1 Chrysotile, if we continue on and apply those Hill
2 criteria to gaskets and packings, is that an area you've
3 also taken a look at?

4 A. Yes. Certainly.

5 Q. And what's important when we're doing that, when
6 we're trying to apply the Hill criteria, to gaskets and
7 packing?

8 A. Well the major consideration is that these are
9 Chrysotile materials. And the Chrysotile in gaskets and
10 packing is no different than the Chrysotile we've just
11 talked about in terms of the methodologies I've used to
12 establish that Chrysotile causes Mesothelioma. There is
13 nothing unique about the Chrysotile in gaskets and
14 packing that wouldn't apply to all of the Bradford-Hill
15 criteria that we've talked about. That being said, there
16 are specific studies that have looked at workers who
17 utilize gaskets and packing and certainly inform my
18 opinion about the strength of association for those
19 materials, and there is strong evidence.

20 Q. And I think it's a good point you to bring up,
21 Dr. Brodtkin, this question -- and I think there were
22 questions to Dr. Brody as well -- well, you haven't used
23 ground up gasket material in your studies. Is there any
24 difference between Chrysotile when it's in a gasket and
25 Chrysotile when it's in a joint compound or in any of the

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1 3,000 products that it may have been in over the years
2 once it's been abraded and it gets into the breathing
3 zone of workers?

4 A. Chrysotile is Chrysotile once it's been released.
5 Now in its encapsulation form, or in whatever physical
6 form it's in, it may differ. But what we're talking
7 about in terms of biologic effects or health effects is
8 the Chrysotile fiber. So once it's released, we're
9 talking about the same material. It's the Chrysotile
10 fiber.

11 Q. It's the fiber, stupid?

12 A. It is the fiber. That's what causes the biologic
13 effect. Your body sees and reacts to the fiber. It
14 doesn't see the source. The source is irrelevant at that
15 point. It's really the body's reaction to that and the
16 body burden that causes risk for disease.

17 Q. And let's say, for example, I was an individual
18 working with a Chrysotile containing thermal insulation
19 product and I liberated asbestos dust. Would that be any
20 different than working with a Chrysotile containing
21 gasket?

22 A. No. And certainly one would want to characterize
23 the activity. There can be ranges of exposure. We've
24 talked about them for gaskets from less than a fiber per
25 cc to tens of fibers per cc. The same would be true for

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1 insulation. We've talked about in shipyards. It can
2 even get into the hundreds of fibers per cc during large
3 rip-outs of ships. So one would want to know the
4 activity from the occupational history. But there is a
5 wide range of exposures. Someone using power tools to
6 remove a gasket may have higher exposures than someone
7 hand removing insulation and vice versa.

8 Q. Now we're talking about applying the Bradford-Hill
9 criteria to gaskets and packing. The first portion we
10 have is gasket manufacturing. Has there been studies of
11 individuals who were involved in gasket manufacturing
12 that involved Chrysotile asbestos?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And can you talk to us a little bit about what's
15 been found?

16 A. Yes. There are a couple of studies that address
17 this. The MacNeal-Chicago registry characterizes 32
18 cases of Mesothelioma. Seven of those cases, 21 percent,
19 had occupational exposure at a Chrysotile gasket
20 manufacturing plant or some others at a Chrysotile
21 insulation manufacturing plant. And then looking at the
22 cases in that area, 27, or 84 percent of them, had a
23 close residential proximity to the manufacturing plants
24 as well. So, that's certainly evidence of risk. And
25 similarly, in a NIOSH study of a Chrysotile packing plant

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1 that actually made packing textiles and friction
2 products, there were 17 cases of Mesothelioma among
3 somewhat over 3,000 workers. That's a rate of .5
4 percent. Again, strikingly, high for a disease in the
5 general population that would occur at one in a million.

6 Q. And we hadn't talked about that much, but
7 Mesothelioma is a rare disease.

8 A. Right. The .51 percent would be essentially one
9 in 200 individuals, rather than one in a million.

10 Q. Now these folks that were in proximity to the
11 manufacturing plant, why is that important when you're
12 looking at these issues in the Hill criteria?

13 A. Well it's similar really to the Madkour study
14 looking at individuals that may have lower levels of
15 exposure in the environment around a source facility, and
16 I think one sees evidence of that here.

17 Q. Now, gasket end users. Is it possible to design
18 an epidemiological study that isolates those folks out?

19 A. I don't think there is a design that does that.
20 Because in Occupational Medicine -- in Occupational
21 Epidemiology, one looks at trades. One looks at groups
22 of workers that perform a similar trade, such as
23 pipefitters or machinists or boilermakers. You can't
24 design a study of a pipefitter that only uses gaskets and
25 doesn't use other materials such as insulation. The same

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1 would be true for boilermakers or machinists. One has to
2 look at the trade, the real world experience of those
3 workers. And that encompasses, certainly, frequent
4 gasket exposure, but it encompasses insulation as well.
5 I mean insulation, gaskets and packing, were the
6 materials that those workers were exposed to.

7 Q. And so we don't have any groups or cohorts of
8 people that only used gaskets their entire life, because
9 part of that process involves thermal insulation.

10 A. In terms of end users? No. The gasket
11 manufacturing studies are more specific to gaskets. But
12 in terms of end users? No. There's not a way to really
13 create that artificial isolated exposure.

14 Q. And I know you weren't here, but even Mr. Boelter
15 admitted when his -- when he did his study he wasn't
16 looking just at pipe -- people doing thermal insulation
17 but, also, there's gaskets underneath there that
18 potentially could be exposure. You would agree with
19 that?

20 A. I think that's a fair characterization.

21 Q. Now you said we could look at trades. Have you
22 looked at the trades so that we can sort of tease this
23 out a little bit?

24 A. Yes. There have been numerous studies that have
25 looked at heating trades in aggregate pipefitters,

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1 plumbers, boilermakers that would fit into this work
2 group that frequently use gaskets. They would also have
3 some insulation exposure as well. But certainly through
4 their trade in it really -- their trade would use
5 gaskets. And consistently, and we've talked about the
6 strength of association and consistency from the
7 Bradford-Hill criteria. One certainly sees it in this
8 epidemiology that one is looking at four to eightfold
9 increases in risk, whether one's looking at the North
10 American registry which McDonald looked at, or the
11 British Columbia registry which Teschke looked at, or the
12 Nordic countries registry which Pukkala looked at, or the
13 French registry which Rolland looked at. It's very
14 similar in the high magnitude of risk.

15 Q. That study from 1980. That's sort of a seminal
16 study in asbestos, isn't it?

17 A. It's an important study. It's a large
18 pathological study of, I believe, over 500 cases.

19 Q. Would you believe someone who is an expert in
20 asbestos and comes in and testifies about epidemiology
21 that they would know about that study?

22 A. McDonald is certainly an important study in the
23 field of asbestos related disease.

24 Q. We dealt with pipefitters, plumbers, boilermakers,
25 and we've just listed some of those studies. Did you

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1 look at some additional studies, other than those we just
2 looked at?

3 A. There are many other studies that looked at these
4 heating trades. There are a number of refinery studies.
5 There are a number of boilermaking studies that also find
6 high rates of disease.

7 Q. And then we have the last group. The last three
8 slides talks about machinists and mechanic repairmen.
9 What's the importance of those folks?

10 A. This is also a group of workers that integrally
11 works with gaskets and packings. Machinists have to
12 repair pumps and valves; there are inherently sealing
13 materials in those that have to be removed and replaced.
14 So I think it's an important trade to look at in looking
15 at a risk for gaskets and packing, again, not independent
16 of insulation but, importantly, in terms of frequent use
17 with gaskets and packing. And one sees about a two to
18 fourfold highly statistically significant increased risk
19 whether one is looking at the British Columbia registry,
20 the Barcelona, Cadiz registry which Agudo looked at; the
21 Swedish registry which Malaker looked at, or the German
22 registry of Rodelsperger.

23 Q. Why is it important to look at these trades when
24 we're looking at the issue of gaskets and packings and
25 things like that and whether they cause Mesothelioma?

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1 A. Well you want to look at the workers that came in
2 contact with those materials in a way that would expose
3 them. So, that could be manufacturing workers. It could
4 be people in the environment around manufacturing plants.
5 It could be end users of those materials. So those are
6 the groups or trades that inform my opinion about gaskets
7 and packing.

8 Q. And when we talk about exposures. You've looked
9 at such documents like the Navy's Safety and Occupational
10 Safety and Health Program Manual that we've talked about
11 with some other witnesses from 2007?

12 A. Certainly, the safety and occupational health
13 branch of the Navy has considered gaskets a hazard in
14 terms of asbestos-related disease, including
15 Mesothelioma, and recommended practices to reduce
16 exposure.

17 Q. And we won't go through that. But they, at least,
18 recognize that sheet gaskets in high temperature
19 applications can become friable?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Why is that important that they can become
22 friable?

23 A. Friability really relates to bio-availability.
24 Again, asbestos is encapsulated and the source is not
25 going to be a risk factor for exposure. But if it's

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1 friable, meaning it can be crushed in the hands, then
2 fibers can be released with fairly minimal physical
3 contact and can result in exposure. So, degraded gaskets
4 can become friable and a source of exposure and airborne
5 fibers.

6 Q. And that issue is looked at by OSHA. We've gone
7 through this with some other witnesses but -- you've seen
8 this before, this ship and the hazardous warnings on
9 board ships for asbestos gaskets and things like that?

10 A. This is specifically for ship breaking activities.
11 OSHA recognized that in old ships you can disrupt
12 asbestos gaskets and get exposure.

13 Q. And the EPA has done the same thing in regards to
14 scrapping of old ships?

15 A. Right. The same thing. Removal of old gaskets
16 that were used in the hot applications in the mechanical
17 spaces of vessels.

18 Q. As an Occupational Medicine doctor, why is it
19 important that the EPA recognizes this and OSHA
20 recognizes it?

21 A. Well, it's important from a preventive health
22 point of view, because a disease that has been
23 characterized and recognized is preventable. And the
24 ways to prevent it have also been well characterized in
25 terms of reducing or suppressing dust, wetting isolation,

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1 ventilation, exhaust, use of respirators, substitution.
2 All of those things have been characterized. So there
3 are effective ways to reduce risk, and that's what the
4 goal is of EPA and OSHA.

5 Q. And this reduction of risk. Are you aware of not
6 only statements by OSHA and EPA but published peer review
7 articles where they discuss there not being a threshold
8 for exposure?

9 A. Yes. I mean the important thing to realize here
10 is that the regulatory limits, whether they be the
11 threshold limit values or the permissible exposure limits
12 derived from them, are not bright line levels for safety.
13 They were never recognized as such. For asbestos those
14 regulatory limits were made for asbestosis, the scarring
15 disease, not for Mesothelioma.

16 And in terms of the permissible limits. OSHA has
17 to consider feasibility, as well as the recommended
18 limits for health, and they recognize that disease occurs
19 at the permissible exposure limits. In fact, the study
20 that the current permissible exposure limit is based on
21 predicts that there would be five respiratory cancers per
22 thousand individuals. So it's not a bright line safe
23 level. And OSHA developed an action level that's less
24 than the permissible exposure of 50 percent of it to take
25 action at lower levels, recognizing that there is risk at

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1 the permissible limit.

2 Q. And I have a quote up there about the .1 fiber per
3 cc level: "There still leaves a remaining significant
4 risk." That's what you're talking about with the OSHA
5 level; right?

6 A. That's correct. Yes.

7 Q. In fact, the reason that level was set was not
8 because of some fine line in the sand between safe and
9 unsafe. It was because, as OSHA said, they believed this
10 is the practical lower limit of feasibility for measuring
11 asbestos levels.

12 A. Yes. OSHA has to consider the feasibility of
13 their permissible limits as well.

14 Q. And the article I had from Schall, what year was
15 that article?

16 A. I believe that was out of the 1960s.

17 Q. And so this idea that there's no fine line between
18 safe and dangerousness as regards to asbestos. That's
19 been known in the literature from at least the '60s?

20 A. Yes. And earlier. Certainly Stokinger and others
21 have spoke of the risk and permissible limits even in the
22 1950s.

23 Q. So it's not just OSHA and the EPA that says this
24 stuff; it's other folks in the literature?

25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Now, the last area I want to talk to you about is
2 fiber potency between Chrysotile and Amphibole. Is that
3 an important distinction when we're looking at
4 individuals that have been exposed to asbestos when
5 you're looking at them in the clinic?

6 A. I would say clinically it's not an important
7 issue. I mean, certainly, it's something that's
8 discussed in the scientific literature. I believe it's
9 my opinion, based on the evidence, there is a potency
10 difference, but it's not clinically important. When
11 physicians such as myself take an occupational history,
12 we're not focused on getting the Amphibole history and
13 not getting the Chrysotile history. We want the history
14 of asbestos exposure and that's because all of the fiber
15 types are potent in causing asbestos-related diseases,
16 including Mesothelioma.

17 In my opinion, the difference in potency is in the
18 range of about threefold difference. It's not a bright
19 line level of potency difference. But the important fact
20 is that Chrysotile, as well as the Amphiboles, are potent
21 in causing Mesothelioma. Chrysotile is a known human
22 carcinogen Group 1A. So, in the history, I'm not
23 distinguishing, and others in my field aren't
24 distinguishing, Amphiboles from Chrysotile. I don't
25 think it's clinically important from in that respect,

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1 although I'm certainly aware there's a scientific
2 discussion of potency difference.

3 Q. In fact, the Helsinki criteria that we began part
4 of our discussion with. Even though they don't
5 distinguish between fiber types and they say that low
6 levels of exposure to asbestos can be attributed to
7 Mesothelioma causation, they also understood that there
8 was this question in the literature whether Chrysotile,
9 and there was some potency difference. Correct?

10 A. Well, Helsinki indicates that Amphiboles show a
11 greater carcinogenic potency than Chrysotile and, I
12 think, primarily related to Mesothelioma. I agree with
13 that statement. I think it correctly reflects the
14 epidemiological literature.

15 Q. And Dr. Brodtkin, based upon all of the things that
16 we've reviewed -- looking at the Helsinki criteria,
17 looking at the Sir Bradford-Hill criteria, applying all
18 of those to the world's literature -- do you have an
19 opinion as to whether Chrysotile asbestos, the type of
20 asbestos found in gaskets and packing, can cause
21 Mesothelioma in human beings?

22 A. In my opinion, Chrysotile in gaskets and packing
23 is a potent risk factor for development of Mesothelioma.
24 And an individual exposed with sufficient dose to gaskets
25 and packing with related Chrysotile exposure would be at

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1 increased risk for developing Mesothelioma. It is a well
2 documented cause of Mesothelioma.

3 Q. And doctor, we didn't ask you to look at all the
4 different individuals that have filed claims in this
5 case; correct?

6 A. That's true.

7 Q. And in regards to your opinions. Have you held
8 all of those within a reasonable degree of medical
9 possibility?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Your Honor, at this time we would offer
12 Dr. Brodkin's CV, which is ACC-3332; his report, which is
13 ACC-3333; his rebuttal report, which is ACC-3334; and we
14 would offer the Power Point which is going to be ACC-3336
15 into evidence.

16 MR. SCHACHTER: The only objection I have, Your
17 Honor, is to the Power Point on Becklake. That's a study
18 that we've looked for and it's not in his references and
19 shouldn't be on there and shouldn't be talked about.
20 Otherwise --

21 MR. FROST: Your Honor, we'll review it. And if
22 it's not in his materials, I'll excise it out of the
23 Power Point that I submit to the Court.

24 THE COURT: All right. If it's not in there, I'm
25 going to sustain the objection. Otherwise, I'll accept

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1 it.

2 MR. FROST: With that, Your Honor, I'll pass the
3 witness.

4 MR. SCHACHTER: For clarification. Those are for
5 demonstrative purposes; right?

6 MR. FROST: His CV is for substantive purposes,
7 and the rest are the way we've offered all the other
8 materials.

9 THE COURT: Let's get Mr. Guy's questions and then
10 we'll break for the day.

11 MR. GUY: Your Honor, this is the one time I need
12 an hour.

13 (Laughter.)

14 THE COURT: You can have it. I won't be here.

15 MR. GUY: I don't need it.

16 THE COURT: Turn out the lights when you get done.

17 (Laughter.)

18 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

19 BY MR. GUY:

20 Q. The whole issue of science and asbestos may have
21 been beaten to death last week, and we probably need a
22 new whip. Dr. Brodkin, I'm not going to ask you the
23 question that I asked the debtor's experts about whether
24 it was known in the public arena, the science, because I
25 think that's pretty much established now that they

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1 understood it. What I want to ask you about is, you
2 testified as to your understanding of the status of the
3 science concerning that issue; correct?

4 A. Yes, we did talk about the evolution of medical
5 knowledge.

6 Q. And you testified, by reference, to numerous
7 studies; correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Some of which have dated back decades?

10 A. True.

11 Q. Now you may not be able to answer this question.
12 And if you can't, that's okay. Do you believe that the
13 status of the science will change dramatically in the
14 next five to ten years?

15 A. I think with asbestos-related disease, as many
16 other areas of medicine, there will likely be further
17 refinement of the knowledge. I don't think there will be
18 drastic changes in terms of the evidence of causation,
19 although there may be additional refinement. I mean,
20 asbestos-related diseases now have been studied for many
21 decades and, I think, been well established. So I think
22 the new knowledge will be fine tuning or refinement of
23 knowledge, rather than dramatic new knowledge. I mean,
24 one doesn't have a crystal ball. But I think given the
25 longitudinal history of asbestos studies, I don't think

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1 there will be dramatic differences in the areas I've
2 testified to.

3 Q. So you don't expect, you know, in the near future
4 that there will be some study that would come out that
5 would find your conclusion to be completely wrong?

6 MR. SCHACHTER: Objection, Your Honor. This is
7 rank speculation.

8 THE COURT: I think so. We'll sustain that
9 objection.

10 MR. GUY: We have all we need, Your Honor. Thank
11 you.

12 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

13 All right. We'll break for the night and come
14 back at 9:30 in the morning.

15 (Off the record at 5:24 p.m.)

16

17 **CERTIFICATE**

18 I, Tracy Rae Dunlap, RMR, CRR, an Official Court
19 Reporter for the United States District Court for the
20 Western District of North Carolina, do hereby certify
21 that I transcribed, by machine shorthand, the proceedings
22 had in the case of IN RE: GARLOCK SEALING TECHNOLOGIES,
23 LLC, et al, Bankruptcy Case No. 10-BK-31607, on July 30,
24 2013.

22 In witness whereof, I have hereto subscribed my
23 name, this 31st day of July 2013.

23

24 __/S/__Tracy Rae Dunlap__
25 TRACY RAE DUNLAP, RMR, CRR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER